

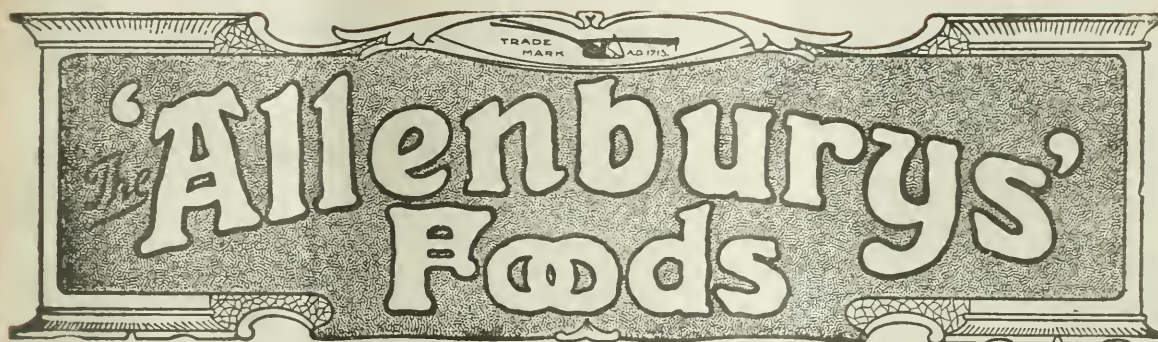
PHAR
Storage

THE AUSTRALASIAN Journal of Pharmacy

With which is Incorporated

The Australasian Chemist and Druggist.

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, MELBOURNE, FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A NEWSPAPER.



P. A. T. A.

MINIMUM RETAIL PRICES.

The 'Allenburys' Milk Food, No. 1 - 1s. 7d. per tin

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Support the P.A.T.A.

INGRAM'S

TRADE

Eclipse
REGD

MARK

HOT WATER BOTTLES

FITTED WITH INGRAM'S "ECLIPSE" STOPPER.
GUARANTEED NOT TO SLIP OR LEAK.

BRITISH MADE

BY

EXPERT BRITISH LABOUR



Size, inches ... 10x6 10x8 12x6 12x8 12x10 14x8 14x12 16x12

Approx. weight,

ounces ... 10½ 11½ 11½ 12½ 15 14½ 18¾ 21¼

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Ingram's "Eclipse" Hot Water Bottles are personally examined and tested under strict supervision as to the Quality of Rubber, Workmanship, etc. and we assure our patrons that with careful use in any climate, and storage under favourable conditions, these high-grade quality Eclipse Hot Water Bottles are warranted to give entire satisfaction, and will remain in a perfect state for a number of years.

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Pergol ...	35/7	4/-	Jettaline ...	48/10	5/6
Stallax ...	35/7	4/-	Mercolized Wax ...	48/10	5/6
Tekko Paste ...	35/7	4/-	Liquid Pergol ...	48/10	5/6
Silmerine ...	35/7	4/-	Pheiminol ...	56 5	6/3
Ext. Barsyde ...	35/7	4/-	Mennaline ...	56/5	6/3
Bicrolium ...	35/7	4/-	Stymol ...	56/5	6/3
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Off HEARNE'S MEDICINES

IN £5 PARCELS.

Buyers of **£5 PARCELS** of Hearne's Bronchitis Cure, Frootoids (and any other of Hearne's Medicines) will now be allowed 15% DISCOUNT OFF THE WHOLESALE PRICES for cash with order as follows:

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1 case, 3 dozen Hearne's Bronchitis Cure (2/6) @ 27/-	...	...	£4	1	0
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			£5	5	0
LESS 15% DISCOUNT	...	...	0	15	9
Nett	...	...	£4	9	3

EXAMPLE No. 2.

1 case, 3 dozen Hearne's Bronchitis Cure (2/6) @ 27/-	...	...	£4	1	0
2 " " Frootoids (1/6) @ 15/-	...	...	1	10	0
			£5	11	0
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Nett	...	...	£4	14	4

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W. G. HEARNE & CO. Ltd.

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To His Majesty, King George V.

Awarded Gold Medal, International Medical Congress, London, 1913.

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Specialties for Invalids.

Manufactured from the **FINEST BRITISH MEATS.**

ESSENCE OF BEEF

And of CHICKEN and MUTTON.

Valuable in cases of exhaustion, depression, and weak digestion due to influenza or any other cause, being easily assimilated by the weakest stomach, imparting at once fresh life and vigour to the whole system.

These Essences are now put up **IN GLASS and TINS.**

The A1 SAUCE

For **"FISH, FLESH, OR FOWL."**

A FINE TONIC AND DIGESTIVE.

Full Price Lists on application to

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MAYFAIR WORKS, VAUXHALL, LONDON, S.W.

BUSINESS HONOUR COMPELS SUCCESS.

The conscientious chemist always supplies the genuine

Antiphlogistine

(TRADE MARK).

when called for.



A good thing is always imitated, and

ANTIPHLOGISTINE

is no exception to this rule.

Though the genuine article costs more, it is safer in the long run, as pleased customers are a business asset.

Make certain of pleased customers by supplying the One and Only

ANTIPHLOGISTINE.

The Denver Chemical Mfg. Co.

SYDNEY.

NAZETHA

A well advertised line yielding a most reasonable profit.

SHOW IT! IT SELLS ITSELF AND BRINGS REPEAT ORDERS.

For HAY FEVER, ASTHMA, CATARRH.

From all Wholesalers or the Proprietors—

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Austral Coaching College

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FOR THE

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

OF THE

PHARMACY BOARD OF VICTORIA.

FEE: £3 3s. per Term.

Single Subject by Arrangement.

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SHOW CASES

Of Every Description.

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CENTRE CASES.

New and Secondhand.

Lowest Prices in Melbourne.

Write for Quotations, or Call and See Us.

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Shop, Office & Bank Fitters,

195 LITTLE COLLINS ST.,

MELBOURNE.



BIDWELLS' TOILET BRUSHES

SILVERDRAWN.
Recd. 5051.



GOLD MEDAL.

Axminster, Devon, England.

ESTABLISHED 1839.

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ROCKE, TOMPSITT & CO., Flinders St., Melbourne.
FAULDING & CO., Perth.
G. W. BENNETT & Co., Christchurch.

BUSH LANE HOUSE, CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCTS

IN GENERAL DEMAND.

ANTICALOR.

This scientific poultice - a modification of Cataplasma Kaolina - is packed in 5lb. tins for Hospital use; in 1lb. tins for extensive home use; and in small (1/3) tins for use by the public in small quantities when treating a boil or reducing inflammation and swelling, such as sprain, &c.

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A perfect 50% solution of Cresols in a neutral vegetable soap. Has a pleasant tarry odour, and serves all purposes for which Lysol is recommended.

ROCKE'S EUCALYPTUS OIL.

In bulk or bottle Distilled in the same district for over a quarter of a century. Answers all tests.

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For deodorizing urinals, &c.

GLOBE WEED KILLER.

Keeps the paths free of weeds.

GOLCRYST.

Well advertised and in ready demand.

ETHER SOAP (R. T. & CO.)

A speciality for Surgeons' and Hospital use.

PHOSPHOL.

Emulsion of C.L.O. with Hypophosphites. (1 tablespoonful equivalent to 1 grain Phosphorus.)

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ROCKE'S PURE FLUID

MAGNESIA.

O. I. NO.

A preparation for keeping away mosquitoes. Two sizes, selling at 9d. and 1/3.

ROCKE'S FRAGRANT LAVENDER

AMMONIA.

Pints, 13/- doz.; half size, 9/- doz.

PROPRIETORS:

Rocke, Tompsitt & Co.,

MELBOURNE.

ENQUIRIES INVITED.

Scott's Emulsion

Revised Prices showing increased retail profit

On and after 1st day of June, 1916, the prices for SCOTT'S Emulsion will be as follows:—

MINIMUM RETAIL PRICES.

SMALL SIZE, 2/6. ————— LARGE SIZE, 4/6.

WHOLESALE PRICES.

SMALL SIZE—			LARGE SIZE—		
Gross Lots		22/3 per doz.	Gross Lots		41/- per doz.
Cases of 3 doz.		22/9 „ „	Cases of 2 doz.		42/- „ „
Dozen Lots		23/6 „ „	Dozen Lots		43/6 „ „

SCOTT & BOWNE (Australasia) Ltd., 483 Kent St., Sydney.

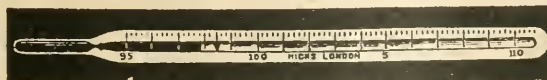
ARTHUR COCKS & CO. LTD.

291-3 Little Collins St., Melbourne,

(And at SYDNEY, ADELAIDE and BRISBANE).

WHOLESALE OPTICIANS & GENERAL IMPORTERS

CLINICAL THERMOMETERS.



The name of HICKS stands for the BEST that is made in Clinicals.

We are Sole Agents in Australasia for J. J. HICKS.

THE PRINCIPAL LINES STOCKED ARE:

Ordinary Universal, Magnifying Universal, 30 and 60 Second Magnifying, also with Kew Certificates.

Do not buy inferior goods when the BEST can be had at low prices.

OPTICAL REQUIREMENTS.—We carry in stock the complete requirements of the optician. We specialize in **OPTICAL PRESCRIPTION WORK.** Fused (invisible) Bifocal Lenses accurately and promptly prepared—Wholesale Only.

INDEX TO ADVERTISEMENTS.

Allen and Hanburys, London—Wholesale Export Druggists, etc. ...	Cover, 28	Koch, Albert, Melbourne—Analyst ...	23
Amalgamated Insurance Limited ...	1	Lambert Pharmacal Co.—“Listerine” ...	14
Atkin's Quinine Wine ...	20	Lloyd, Howard, and Co. Ltd., Leicester ...	18
Atkinson and Barker, Manchester ...	11	Maltine Manufacturing Co., London ...	18
Beecham's Pills ...	25	Miller, A. P., and Son, Hobart—Nazetha ...	5
Benger's, F. B. & Co. Ltd., Manchester ...	12	Murphy, Andrew, N.S.W. ...	20
Bidwell's Tooth Brushes, London ...	5	National Cash Register Co., Sydney ...	27
Boston Co., Melbourne ...	5	Neave's Food ...	...
Bosisto and Co., Richmond, Melbourne—Eucalyptus Oil ...	29	Nicholas, Geo. R., Melbourne ...	9
Brand & Co., London—Specialties ...	3	Pacolol ...	8
Bresillon & Co. ...	Insert	Parke, Davis and Co., Detroit, U.S.A., and Sydney—Manufacturing Chemists ...	Cover
Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., London and Sydney ...	Cover	Pears' Soap ...	10
Bush, W. J., and Co., London and Melbourne—Manufacturing Chemists, &c. ...	16	Pharmacy Board Notices ...	26
Cocks, Arthur, & Co., Opticians, etc. ...	7	Roberts' Filling Machine Co. ...	30
Condy and Mitchell, London—Condy's Fluid ...	First Page of Reading Matter	Rocke, Tomsitt and Co., Melbourne ...	6
Davenport, J. T., Ltd., London—Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne ...	1	Rosier, John, Melbourne—Chiropodist, etc. ...	24
Dearborn Limited, Sydney ...	1	Sigma Co. Ltd. ...	30
Denver Chemical Mfg Co., Sydney—Antiphlogistine ...	4	Silberberg and Co., H. B., Melbourne..	20
Denyer Brothers, Melbourne—Surgical Instrument and Truss Makers ...	17, 22	Scott and Bowne Ltd.—Scott's Emulsion	7
Duerdin & Sainsbury ...	21	Seabury and Johnson, London and Sydney	...
Egyptian Eye Salve ...	21	Smith, T. & H., Edinburgh ...	17
Fassett & Johnson, Sydney—Emol Keleet	...	Statham & Co., Manchester ...	21
Felton, Grimwade & Co., Melbourne ...	15	Stearns & Co., Frederick, Sydney ...	16
Greathead's Mixture, Melbourne ...	Insert	St. Dalmas, A. De, Leicester—Plasters	20
Hearne, W. G., Geelong—Bronchitis Cure	2	S.P. Charges Co., England—Sulphaqua and Sulphaqua Soap ...	...
Henry, T. and W., Manchester ...	11	Taylor and Colledge, Brisbane ...	17
Holloway's Pills ...	20	Thomas, F., Coaching College ...	6
Horlick's Malted Milk, England ...	23	Ueyamaye Insecticide Pro. and Mfg. Co. ...	23
Howards and Sons Ltd. ...	18	Vapo-Cresolene, New York—Vapo-Cresolene	19
Ingrams, London ...	Cover	Whitehead & Co., Melbourne—Chemists' Labels	24
Idris and Co. Ltd., England ...	11	Woods' Great Peppermint Cure ...	30
		Wood, W., & Co., Melbourne—Opticians	19
		Wyleys Ltd., Coventry—Wholesale and Export Druggists... ..	13
		Zeal, G. H.	22

LYSOL PEARSON'S

Messrs. Pearson's Antiseptic Co. Ltd. have been granted the use of the Trade Mark “LYSOL” in Australia, but not wishing to perpetuate the German name they have incorporated with “Lysol” the British trade mark “PACOLOL.”

All infringements of the “Lysol” Trade Mark will be prosecuted by the Attorney-General of the Commonwealth.

PACOLOL

This fluid is guaranteed to be similar in composition and efficiency as the original German manufacture.

For further particulars write to

Mr. H. A. REEVES, 25 O'Connell Street, Sydney.

Messrs. NOLAN & BRODERICK, 464 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

Messrs. TAYLOR & COLLEDGE, Brisbane.



**THE REMEDY ALWAYS
IN POPULAR DEMAND.**



You will give your customers satisfaction
when you supply the guaranteed pure

NICHOLAS-ASPIRIN

MADE IN AUSTRALIA BY AUSTRALIANS

Manufactured under license from the Attorney-General, Commonwealth Government of Australia, and under the supervision of the Federal Commonwealth Analyst, who tests each day's manufacture before it is supplied to the public.

Extract from *Herald*, Sept. 17th, 1915:—

"A test was carried out on Tuesday by the Federal Commonwealth Analyst, in the presence of the Attorney-General, of preparations, including those of Bayer & Company, of Germany, and of Mr. Geo. R. Nicholas. Of these, only that prepared by Mr. Geo. R. Nicholas was found to be absolutely pure."

**Increase your sales by selling the extensively advertised NICHOLAS
ASPIRIN with attractive window material and show cards.**

SIZE, No. 1 (10's).

10/- dozen, 1 dozen lots
9/9 dozen, 1 gross lots
9/6 dozen, 5 gross lots

SIZE, No. 2 (25's).

16/- dozen, 1 dozen lots
15/6 dozen, 1 gross lots
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Size, No. 3 (100's), 60 - dozen.

Nicholas-Aspirin Powder for dispensing in $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and 1 lb. boxes,
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BY SPECIAL WARRANT



TO H.M. THE KING.

Pearl's SOAP

All the Leading Lines kept in Stock at
**MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE,
ADELAIDE, WELLINGTON.**

£20 Parcels supplied at laid-down cost. Smaller quantities can
be obtained from any Wholesale House on reasonable terms.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

SHOW CARDS, Etc., will be sent to any Wholesale House for enclosure
on application.

SOLE AGENTS FOR AUSTRALASIA—
GOLLIN & CO. PTY. LTD.

Atkinson & Barker's

ROYAL

Infants' Preservative

This oldest-established remedy for infants is the favourite one in all parts of the world. It is the most efficient anti-spasmodic and carminative—and is quite free from any scheduled drugs.

Manufacturers - - R. BARKER & SON,
11 Russell Street, Manchester, England.

If you have
Heartburn,
Headache,
Gout,
Biliousness,
or Acidity
of the
Stomach
TRY

**HENRY'S
CALCINED MAGNESIA**

It is
free from
taste, smell,
or roughness
to the palate.

This Remedy
was first prepared
by Dr. Thomas Henry,
of Manchester, in the
year 1772, and has been
before the public for one hun-
dred and forty years—surely a
wonderful record and proof of its
remarkable medicinal value.

One dose will relieve Heartburn,
and a few doses will correct Acidity,
Gout, Headache, and Biliousness.

It is the mildest and safest
aperient for the most delicate
constitutions, and can be given to children
in early infancy.

Sole
Makers—**THOMAS & WILLIAM HENRY**
11, EAST STREET, MANCHESTER.

Price 2/9 and 4/6 per Bottle.

Can be obtained from all the leading chemists in the United Kingdom
and abroad.

Why Sell German or Austrian Waters

TONALKA

IS

THE BRITISH
Aperient Water

Tried and Proved for Over
Quarter of a Century.



A morning glass of this
pleasant British Aperient
Water is the surest safe-
guard against constipation
and acidity, with all their
attendant evils. Certain,
safe, and mild in action.

IDRIS & CO. LTD. (E. Department)

CAMDEN TOWN, LONDON, ENGLAND.



GOLD MEDAL AWARDED

Health Exhibition London, Adelaide and Melbourne.

*The Practitioner
says :*

"All these preparations are, we think, deserving of highest praise."

*The Medical Press and
Circular says:*

"Few modern improvements in pharmacy have done so much as Benger's Preparations to assist the physician in his treatment of the sick."

*The Lancet
describes it as:*

"Mr. Benger's admirable preparation."

The British Medical Journal says:

"Benger's Food has, by its excellence, established a reputation of its own."

Benger's Food

is a **self-digestive**, not a pre-digested Food. The Special Value of this is, that in cases of weak or defective digestive power, in Adults or Children, the exact amount of digestion to suit each individual case may be given to the Food during the process of preparation. As health comes back this self-digestion may be so regulated as to allow the digestive organs to do more and more work, until finally they may do it all, leading up to discarding the Food altogether, and the gradual resuming of ordinary diet.

With Benger's Food alone is this process possible

Wholesale of all Wholesale Houses and Shippers,

or from the Manufacturers

BENGER'S FOOD LTD.,
Otter Works MANCHESTER England

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Wyleys Limited
Coventry.



LONDON DEPOT:

**2 BATH STREET,
CITY ROAD.**

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Ammoniated Quinine.
Castor Oil.
Sandal Wood Oil.

GELATINE COATED PILLS.

Blaud.
Blaud and Arsenic.
Blaud and Cascara.
Easton's.

Veterinary Specialities. Duraplastic Horse Balls.

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PRICES IN LONDON.

CARLSBAD SALTS.—Granular effervescent (handsome coloured cartons). 10/- doz.

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TOOTH POWDER.—Camphorated chalk, carbolic, in decorated tins. Small size, 2/- doz.; large, 3/6 doz.

WYLEYS LTD. specially devote themselves to the manufacture of CHEMISTS' OWN NAME PREPARATIONS, and will be glad to receive inquiries respecting this branch of their business.

FULL LISTS WILL BE MAILED ON APPLICATION.

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TRADE MARK REGISTERED IN U.S. PATENT OFFICE

AND BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

A non-toxic antiseptic of known and definite power; prepared in a form convenient for immediate use; of ready dilution, slightly, pleasant, and sufficiently powerful for all purposes of asepsis—these are advantages which Listerine embodies.

The high repute of Listerine has been obtained by the voluntary favor bestowed upon it by professional men, and by means of their recommendation it has become known and prized by their patients to such an extent that it is now quite generally utilized as an article of domestic medicine, and for purposes of personal hygiene.

Australian Price List.

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Listerine Tooth Powder	per doz., 8s.;	per case, twelve doz.	96s.
Listerine Talcum Powder	per doz., 8s.;	per case, twelve doz.	96s.
Lithiated Hydrangea Comp., 8-oz. bottles, 4s. size,	per doz., case	...	36s.

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Messrs. FELTON, GRIMWADE & CO.,
MELBOURNE,

Australian Agents for

Lambert Pharmacal Co.,

ST. LOUIS, Mo., U.S.A.

L. C. S.

LIQUOR

CRESOLIS

SAPONATUS.

We have pleasure in stating that this Lysol substitute, prepared in our laboratories after many months of exhaustive and expensive trial and experiment, is meeting with a very favourable reception. It is a compound of Orthocresol (Methyl Carboic Acid) and Liquid Vegetable Soap, and is readily soluble in water in any proportion. The Cresol content is a product of Australian Coal Tar, and possesses the advantage over Carboic Acid of a higher germicidal value, and a lower toxicity to animals and humans.

Dr. R. J. Bull, of the Melbourne University, to whom we submitted sample for bacteriological test, states in his report, dated 8th November—"That by the Rideal-Walker method, 'L.C.S.' proved to be twice as potent as carboic acid.

We claim for this preparation that:—

As a substitute for Lysol, or similar preparations, it answers every requirement.

It is a purely Australian product.

It is cheaper than the imported article.

PUT UP IN 4oz., 8oz., and 16oz. TRIANGULAR SHAPE POISON BOTTLES,
ALSO IN 1 GALLON TINS.

When ordering it is sufficient to specify L.C.S.

WE SHALL BE PLEASED TO SUPPLY SAMPLES UPON REQUEST.

FELTON, GRIMWADE & CO.
MELBOURNE.

W. J. BUSH & CO. LTD.

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The following are amongst the most important:—

Distilled at Hackney.

OIL OF ALMONDS
CARDAMOMS
CARAWAY
CINNAMON
CLOVES
CUBES
DILL
ORRIS
PATCHOULI
SANDAL WOOD.

Distilled at Mitcham.

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LAVENDER
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PEPPERMINT
ROSEMARY

Distilled at Grasse.

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GERANIUM
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NEROLI
ROSEMARY
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Articles.

The Continental Model.

Pharmaceutical Journal, January 6, 1917.

We observe from certain recent expressions of opinion at pharmaceutical meetings that some of the more ardent apostles of the highly commendable movement for the professional development and elevation of the pharmacist are inclined to favour the Continental system—made principally in Germany—under which the number of pharmacists is regulated according to population. It is odd, to say the least of it, that, except in the matter of morals, because, as insular prejudice versicularly expresses it:—

"On the wicked Continong,
They don't know right from wrong,"

where we hesitate to adopt Continental models and methods, we should of late years have plunged into an almost servile imitation of exotic political, scientific, and social institutions and usages. As everyone knows, this was notoriously so in the case of the National Health Insurance scheme, which we copied in principle and, to some extent, in plan, from Germany; and a number of similar instances will readily occur to the reader who has been a critical observer of the trend of national affairs during the past three decades. While it would be stupid to deny that there is always much to be learned from the foreigner, we must beware of indiscriminating approval or condemnation of his ways of thought and action. And this caution applies *a fortiori* to the case in point, namely, that of the *status* and circumstances of the pharmacist in Germany, Austria, Russia, and Italy. It goes without saying that in point of professional standing before the law—

and, in some degree, in the estimation of the public—the pharmacist in these countries is more advantageously placed than anywhere in the British Empire. But what is the price that he pays for his position, and is the position worth the price? To begin with, qualification is much more difficult of attainment than in this country or in any of the British colonies. This circumstance is not in itself a defect in the Continental system, if it can be proved to yield a better result in respect of professional recognition and remuneration. But where, as in Germany and Russia, the number of pharmacies is strictly proportioned to the population, no new business can be opened without the sanction of the Government, and an established business can only be acquired for a sum equal to its capitalised value. In other words, if the net income from the business is represented in British currency as £500 per annum, and the rate of interest for gilt-edged securities is 5 per cent., unless, as is probable, the seller demands a higher rate of payment by instalments, the purchaser must, in addition to the amount to be paid for stock and fittings, be in possession of or borrow £6000. In the majority of cases this means that the pharmacist who buys a business may be weighed down by a millstone of debt for the greater part of his active life. And in these circumstances, he may be pardoned for doubting whether kudos in the shape of professional recognition are a fair exchange for the shekels which are the reward of mere trading. It is true that in theory the State gives him a monopoly of practice, but in effect both in Germany and Russia the unqualified druggist, although he is debarred from dispensing and the sale of poisons, encroaches seriously upon a lucrative part of the pharmacist's business; and, so far, the State has shown no inclination to close down this piratical traffic, which steadily grows in volume, and has already materially depreciated the value of many State-controlled pharmacies, to the ruinous loss of the owners, who paid a high price for them. It is apt to be forgotten, or not adequately taken into account, that the fundamental difference between the conditions of British and foreign pharmacy arises from the historic fact that whereas the former, like most British institutions, from the political constitution of the nation downwards, is a growth, the latter is an artificial structure imposed upon a class by autocratic or bureaucratic authority, a statement which applies even to nominally democratic France, which is still largely dominated by the Code Napoleon. It is always possible, but seldom practicable, to convert an artificial structure into some semblance of a natural growth. But a growth cannot by any known process be suddenly transformed into a specific mechanism with a clockwork movement. So that, even if it were within the range of practical politics, it would not be desirable to reform British pharmacy on the Continental model, since any such attempt is foredoomed to failure. While it is not to be disputed that there is room for, and urgent need of, the professional development and advancement of the pharmacist, care must be taken not to erect the professional ideal into a fetish. All are agreed that the paramount objective is to reserve pharmacy for the pharmacist

and *vice versa*, so that he may become a professional man in the sense that he shall get the work to do for which he has been expressly educated and trained. While every effort should be made to attain this object, which has a sound economic and equitable sanction, there is absolutely nothing to be said in defence of any *arrière pensée* as to contingencies of social recognition and preferment which may be complementary to professional work. Napoleon the First's gibe was really a tribute to a great national aptitude and achievement. From the remotest times we have been a nation of traders and shopkeepers. Hence our present power and prestige. That is our glory and not our shame. And any notion that by becoming professional pharmacists, *par sang*, we should cease to be vulgar traders, and so gain an immediate *entrée* into higher circles of the socially elect, is a gross form of snobbery that pharmacists who have any self-respect should be the last to entertain.

"Placebo": A Protest and a Plea.

By STANLEY NOBLE, M.D., Temp. Capt. R.A.M.C.,

Physician to the British Hospital for Mental Disorders and Nervous Diseases.

(Abstracted from *The Practitioner*.)

An old teacher of mine used to say: "Gentlemen, there are two drugs in the Pharmacopœia of some service; one is mag. sulph., to open the bowels, and the other, tinct. opii, to shut them up again, and you may throw in a little mercury, if you like." True, he was a surgeon, and lived before the days of serum vaccine and organo-therapies; nevertheless, most practitioners will admit a considerable substratum of truth in this *façon de parler*.

It is not my concern nor my desire to belittle the undoubted value of appropriate drugs as aids to treatment, or, indeed, as a main treatment in a large number of cases. On the contrary, taking a hill-top view, one realises how much suffering humanity owes to the laboratory chemist and to intelligent drug-therapy. But it is my purpose to enter a protest against the employment of drugs in every ailment and every disease one is called upon to treat, and especially to damn, and without any faint praise, that hoary old expedient, the "Placebo"—ponderously advised aforetime in the older and out-of-date text-books, without any saving spice of humour, as a superlative remedial agent, but nowadays less reverently alluded to—though not in print—as "Mist. G.O.K.," or "Mist. A.D.T."

But what do we mean by a drug? What is it to include? For my present purpose, let it cover that stock of liquids, pills, and powders that are to be found in an ordinary chemist's shop.

I will dare to say that if one were to analyse the daily list of the patients of the average busy practitioner, one would probably find one-half of the medicines ordered ineffective, and at least one-third admittedly futile. The former

category largely consists of examples of the *post hoc, propter hoc* fallacy; the latter comprises the pusillanimous "Placebo."

Writing as one who has had in the past a not inconsiderable experience of general practice, I should say that a fair proportion of the "walking and cot" cases—to use the language of the moment—met with in private, presents one with vague and indefinite, or frequently trivial, symptoms which cannot be precisely pigeon-holed, but are commonly referred to as "liver," "run down," "acidity," "below par," etc. The patient dotes on a diagnosis and pines for a prescription, wherefore the doctor prepares a label and a "Placebo"—*et tout va bien*. Why, then, should anybody grumble? Because the diagnosis is often slipshod, and the treatment always unscientific; the one lends itself to the other.

Granted that the diagnosis is not easy, not clear, indeed, often not possible in the first instance, surely that is a very good reason in itself for not prescribing a "Placebo," for drugs may do harm as well as good, save in those cases in which the "Placebo" appears in its most contemptible and indolent form, containing merely colored and flavoured aquæ, more or less pure. The truth is that the medical man is daily confronted with an array of slight functional ailments, due to an unhealthy mentality or a narrowed point of view, and the treatment which should face the cause squarely and deal with it on rational lines is lured on readily, as it by some magnetic attraction, into the presence of that goddess of ease and indolence, whose insignia bear the strange device: "I will please." And the end is attained—the patient is pleased and the patient gets well; the physician has pulled the strings, and the figure works to the music of the old classical melody: "*Populus vult decipi, ergo decipitur*."

Prof. Sahli is reputed to have said: "If I were very ill, I would rather be treated by a homœopath, who would give me nothing, than by an allopath imbued with a sense of his therapeutic power."

The public is over-drugged. It is drugged when it is sick; it is drugged even when it is well. Each meal is surrounded by physic, so that the supposed *materies morbi* shall not escape destruction anywhere. There is a concoction for everything, and the "Placebo" is to be had for the asking. The mob have taken over the medicine-chest.

Munro, in his book on "Suggestive Therapeutics," narrates the case of a man morbidly self-conscious of some functional disturbance, who wandered from one physician to another without relief, until at last he struck a doctor who looked him squarely in the face and said: "My friend, go home, read the book of St. James, call yourself a damned fool, and leave doctors alone." Crude advice, perhaps, but effectual, and capable of appropriate modification by the tactful observer.

Nevertheless, the "Placebo" holds the field, and the doctor is the acclaimed healer by its means. "Let something be done, or at least seem to be

done." The result is always a medicine, and frequently a "Placebo." Is it intelligent to prescribe a "Placebo?" Is it honest to one's self? Is it scientifically sound? If not, then why do we do it? There may be several reasons, but the main one is contained in the translation of the word, and is an unnecessary fraud on the patient, and a blot upon our intelligence. For let it definitely be granted that the end is attained, and that the "Placebo" cures; yet we know that, by a pious fraud, we have roused the curative idea in the mind of the patient, and the *vis medicatrix naturæ* is set to work. Dubois says: "The nervous patient is on the path to recovery as soon as he has the conviction that he is going to be cured; he is cured on the day he believes himself cured." Recognising, then, the existence of suggested and auto-suggested ideas as potent forces, why should we not proceed to call them into action by the direct method straight away, educating our patients to their value, and indicating how they are to be made use of? Instead of this, we are content to navigate the ship like a landlubber; we steer a course out into mid-ocean, and the frail vessel grinds and strains 'mid heavy seas, whilst the trained sailorman would be hugging the shore in comfort and fair weather, and making port in half the time and half the fuel. Thus, we prescribe "Placebos" and "nerve tonics" galore; we order the latest "brain food" or an electric bath; we suggest an expensive nursing home and some vibratory massage; we announce a change of air and advertise a continental health resort; or we may even hint darkly at a surgical operation. In a word, we do everything to self-centre the patient and confirm his disease, rather than teach him the value of will-power, optimism, self-confidence, and persistent intention.

I venture to say that a critical examination of the patients seen by the average practitioner from day to day would reveal the fact that at least one-third of the cases demanded treatment by psychotherapeutic methods alone, whilst the remainder would be benefited by them. If "Placebo" prescriptions and "Placebo" bottles of medicines were to become unfashionable, there is little doubt that the dispensing chemist and the doctor who dispenses would find their work materially curtailed. It means, of course, educating the public to the efficacy and value of psychotherapy, and to the distinctly restricted field of drug-therapy. Along these lines, I believe we should accomplish much more towards the suppression of quack nostrums and 'systems of cure' than by any legislation.

Let me conclude, as I began, by asserting that the Pharmacopœia, intelligently used, is indispensable in the successful treatment of many ills—opium to relieve pain, iron to cure chlorosis, bromide to allay cortical irritability, and so on; but drugs, for all and sundry cases, is indefensible, and the "Placebo" a pestilential proposition.

At the Counter.

"Please for some Smelling Powder, cream." An unusual way for asking for Face Powder—cream tint.

British News.

MR. W. S. GLYN JONES PROMOTED.

A gratifying announcement to pharmacists was made at the close of the year that Mr. W. S. Glyn Jones, M.P., had been appointed Parliamentary private secretary to the Ministry in succession to Mr. F. Kellaway, M.P. The appointment was made through the instrumentality of Dr. Addison, Minister of Munitions, with whom Mr. Glyn Jones was closely identified in the administration of the National Insurance Act.

THE FUNCTION OF THE WHOLESALE.

Mr. T. Edward Lescher, of Messrs. Evans, Lescher and Webb Ltd., delivered an interesting address at the annual meeting of the Liverpool Chemists' Association in January. His subject was "Things Pharmaceutical as Viewed by a Wholesaler." Mr. Lescher, in the course of his address, said the Food and Drugs Act made it imperative that pharmacists should only hand over and use such drugs and chemicals that would pass satisfactory tests, which meant that an implied guarantee went with each sale, and as the pharmacist's duties had increased so much, he usually relied upon the wholesaler for the purity of the substances he handed to the public. Thus the wholesaler had—

To check by analysis or assay finished manufactured goods.

To examine, with a view of acceptance or rejection, raw materials and bought manufactured goods.

Wholesalers also conducted research work, under which may be grouped—

- (a) Work done leading to new products.
- (b) Examining specimens of raw material from new sources.
- (c) Improving existing tests and standards of purity.
- (d) Improvements in processes of manufacture and standardisation.

The speaker spoke in detail relative to the shortage of supplies of many drugs and chemicals largely used, and pointed out the urgent necessity for the British Empire to take up the manufacture of those chemicals she had neglected.

He suggested, as objects to be kept in view to remedy the defects of the past, a better system of secondary education, utilisation of science in industry, and the adoption of the metric system. The two great qualities that were going to win through after the war were "grit" and imagination. Most Britishers had the former and men must be picked out who had the latter.

SCHEME FOR PRICING 'SCRIPTS.

The *British and Colonial Pharmacist* has developed a scheme for pricing prescriptions, based

on a standard suggested by a special committee of practical pharmacists. Briefly the scale is as follows:—

Take the cost price of ingredients (minimum for each ingredient ½d.) and

Add the cost price of container.

Add 50 per cent. (to cover establishment charges).

Add a dispensing fee, calculated at the rate of 3s. per hour and apportioned thus:—

Ordinary mixtures and lotions	6d.
Emulsions	9d.
Ointments 1 oz. 6d., 2 oz. 9d.	
Pills, powders and cachets 1 doz. 9d., 2 doz. 1s.	
Silvered pills as pills plus 3d. per doz.	

Charge as above if the resultant price does not work out below the annexed minima:—

MINIMA.

Mixtures : Dose.	4 ozs.	6 ozs.	8 ozs.	12 ozs.	16 ozs.
5j	10d.	1s. 2d.	1s. 4d.	1s. 6d.	
3ss	1s. 0d.	1s. 4d.	1s. 6d.	1s. 8d.	
5ij	1s. 2d.	1s. 6d.	1s. 8d.		
3j	1s. 3d.	1s. 8d.	—	—	
Lotions and Gargles ...	9d.	10d.	1s. 0d.	1s. 3d.	1s. 6d.
Pills } Powders }	1	2	½ doz.	1 doz.	2 doz.
Cachets ...	3d.	4d.	8d.	1s. 0d.	1s. 6d.
Suppositories...	3d.	4d.	10d.	1s. 4d.	2s. 3d.
	—	—	1s. 3d.	1s. 9d.	3s. 0d.

DEATH FROM WEED KILLER.

On January 12, at Caterham, an inquest was held concerning the death of Frank Bowey, a gardener, whose body was found in a wood a month ago. The evidence showed that a bottle which had contained weed-killer was found a few yards from the spot where the body was discovered. The County Analyst stated that in the contents of the stomach he found enough arsenic to kill more than 150 people. It was colourless, and he drew attention to the extreme danger of weed-killer in that form, expressing the opinion that it should be coloured. Evidence showed that deceased had been depressed owing to his being medically unfit for military service. The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity."

THE STATE OCTOPUS AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

The above was the title of Dr. Edmund Cautley's Presidential address to the Harveian Society of London on January 11. Having given a historic *resumé* of the successive encroachments by the State on private medical practice, beginning with the Public Health Act of 1875, and culminating for the present in the National Insurance Acts, Dr. Cautley said:—"The Insur-

ance Act is a good conception inadequately carried out. It ought to have been limited at first to employees under twenty-five years of age, the healthiest class in the community. In the course of forty years all the wage-earning class up to the age of sixty-five years would have been insured. From the public point of view the medical section of the Act is a failure. It is not as good as the old club system, with its admitted evils. Thousands of the insured are dissatisfied and avoid their panel doctors. Panel doctors are practically State officials, and their sympathy with the patients is diminished. There is more illness, more malingering, and neurasthenia, greater prolongation of illness, and an increasing demand for certificates. Often a patient obtains a larger income when ill than when at work. Disease has to be treated more or less according to rules, and the cheaper drugs used for panel patients help to prolong illness. The united efforts of panel practice, of State and municipal treatment of tuberculosis, venereal and infectious diseases, the possible provision of ante-natal and post-natal clinics, and the existence of numerous departmental medical hybrids in the shape of medical officers of health, school doctors, Poor-law and asylum doctors tend to the establishment of a State medical service. A State medical service will not be economical, though perhaps less extravagant than the panel system. It is suitable for those under discipline, but we do not want the nation under the heel of medical drill sergeants."

AID TO MILITARY PHARMACISTS ON THEIR RETURN TO CIVIL LIFE.

At the January meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, the following motion was unanimously carried:—

"That it is desirable for the Council to be prepared with a scheme, either by setting up a bureau or other suitable means, to assist those pharmacists who are at present members of his Majesty's Forces to obtain fitting employment on their return to civil life, and to consider what measures are possible to ameliorate the condition of any who have been physically crippled by the war."

Mr. H. Skinner, in moving the resolution, said he approached it from the standpoint of the employee rather than of the employer. When the Army was disbanded it would be done gradually, and those who were the last to be released might find themselves left out in the cold. It seemed to him that the Council was the most competent authority to deal with the matter. They could begin by setting up a Register, or Employment Bureau, giving it publicity through the Journal. With regard to the latter part of his motion, that was on a somewhat different footing. Pharmacists who had served with the Colours deserved well of their country, but while the State would make some provision, it would not be sufficient, and their professional brethren were morally bound to come to their aid.

LECTURES ON MICRO-BIOLOGY.

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society has decided to commence a course of lectures on Micro Biology, open to those who have completed the qualifying course. Twenty lectures are to be given, and ten weeks are to be devoted to practical work, each student working during that period for three successive mornings or afternoons weekly. The fee for the course will be £6 6s. Dr. Burnet has agreed to undertake the work, on the basis of half the fees being received being paid to him. Mr. Edmund White, B.Sc., in explaining the proposals, said that the idea was an experiment. It should not involve the Society in any considerable expense, as it would undoubtedly meet a need which, it was expected, would grow as time went on.

GENERAL.

Sir Jesse Boot, chairman of the "Boot" group of companies, who was knighted in 1909, has been created a Baronet.

Sir Richard Winfrey, M.P., and registered pharmaceutical chemist, has been appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Agriculture.

Sir William Whitla, M.D., has been appointed one of his Majesty's Honorary Physicians in Ireland in place of the late Mr. James Little, M.D.

The late Sir Joseph Beecham's estate is reported to have been provisionally valued for the purposes of probate at £1,000,000. The will is stated to be a purely family document.

Frederic Adolphus Everingham has been removed from the roll of members of the Pharmaceutical Society, he having failed to satisfy the Council in regard to the charge of conduct subversive of the interests of the Society which had been brought against him in due form and considered.

Firm to be Wound Up.—An order has been made by the Board of Trade requiring the following business to be wound up, making 398 in all:—Carl Zeiss (London), Limited, 13-14 Great Castle-street, Oxford Circus, W., opticians and makers of field glasses (January 5th).

Mr. C. S. Taylor, director and general manager of Messrs. W. J. Bush and Co. Limited, retired at the end of 1916, after 46 years' connection with the firm. Recently the directors presented him with a silver tea service as a token of their esteem, and the older members of the staff gave him a silver salver.

Venereal Diseases and Quack Remedies.—The Council of the Royal College of Surgeons has passed a resolution, expressing the opinion that it is urgently necessary for the protection of the public that the treatment of venereal diseases, and the advertisement of remedies for such a purpose, by unqualified persons, should be prohibited and made a punishable offence.

American Notes.

Proposed New Legislation.

In the State of Arkansas, a Bill is now before the Legislature for the purpose of "defining potent drugs, and restricting their sale to legitimate channels. Potent drugs are defined as those whose maximum adult dose is one drachm or less, mentioning specifically aconite, arsenic, mercury, acetanilide, belladonna, chloroform, alcohol, cannabis indica, chloral hydrate, and their derivatives, and preparations. All such drugs must be compounded by, or under the supervision of a registered pharmacist. They may only be sold by pharmacists and licensed persons. In North Dakota, a Bill proposing strict regulation of the proprietary medicine business is pending. It provides for the licensing of all proprietary medicines, and it also defines a proprietary medicine containing more alcohol "than that required for pharmacological purposes" as a beverage. It prohibits the advertising and general sale of medicines purporting to cure cancer, consumption, deafness, diabetes, paralysis, fits, epilepsy, locomotor "ataxis," Bright's disease, rupture, or venereal diseases. It prohibits advertising suggesting abortifacient properties. It prohibits changes in formulas without the knowledge of the licensing board. It prohibits the use of fancy names for recognised drugs, except as approved by the licensing board. It prohibits false trade descriptions or curative claims. It prohibits the enclosing of advertising for one remedy in the package of another, the inviting of correspondence with the vendor, the use of a fictitious person or testimonial, the publishing of a recommendation by an unnamed, unlocated medical practitioner, and promises to refund money if a cure is not "affected." The food commissioner is instructed to analyse all preparations believed to come within the provisions of the law, and is empowered to inspect manufacturing and selling establishments. The penalties range from a fine of \$500, to a fine of 1000 dol., and six months' imprisonment.

Immiscible Liquids.

A querist asked the *Midland Druggist* for an explanation for the separating and coloring of a prescription composed of glycerin, alcohol and methyl salicylate; the lower strata assuming an orange-red color. The Editor replied pointing out that the separation is caused by the presence of glycerin and methyl salicylate, as these liquids are immiscible; the alcohol and methyl salicylate forming the upper layer. The color is probably due to the presence of iron in the mixture, presumably from the glycerin, and this impurity reacting with the methyl salicylate.

Medical News.

Death from Burns.

Chinese Herbalist's "Treatment."

An inquest was held at Smythesdale on March 6 on the body of a child, aged five years, named Kathleen Tuddenham, daughter of R. Tuddenham, mining engine driver at Nintingbool, who died on 27th ult. from the effects of burns received on 1st December last. It was stated that the accident occurred owing to the clothing of the deceased igniting while she was standing near a fire. The girl was badly burned on the back and legs. She was conveyed to the shop of Sam Wah, Chinese herbalist, at Ballarat. Sam Wah, on examining the sufferer, said the case was serious, and advised that she be taken to the hospital. The relatives of the girl said, in reply, that it was their desire that he should treat her. He then applied honey and liquorice powder to the burns, which, it was alleged, he did not dress in bandages.

Dr. Wise, of Smythesdale, gave evidence that he had examined the body of the child, which was fearfully emaciated. The deceased had not been properly treated by the Chinese herbalist. One of the legs of the child should have been amputated soon after the accident. The spine of the deceased was exposed and charred as a result of the burning, and there were wounds on the leg and abdomen. The Coroner returned a verdict that death was due to shock, arising from burns.

British Medical Association.

VICTORIAN BRANCH.

A meeting of the Council of the Victorian Branch was held at the Medical Society Hall, East Melbourne, on February 28, 1917. Professor R. J. A. Berry, the President, in the chair.

Lodge Practice.—The report of the Organisation Committee dealing with the question of re-opening negotiations with the Association of Friendly Societies in Victoria was discussed. The Committee submitted in its report "that it be a recommendation to the Council that negotiations with the Friendly Societies, which were interrupted in August, 1914, be re-opened." The report was adopted by a unanimous vote. The Secretary was instructed to approach the Secretary of the Association of Friendly Societies, with a view to convening a meeting of the conference of ten for the purpose of resuming negotiations.

Potent Drugs.—The Council considered a communication from the Pharmacy Board dealing with the question of the indiscriminate selling of headache powders containing "potent drugs" such as acetanilide, etc. The Council, while sympathising with the Board that the sale of these drugs should be restricted, expressed the opinion that "potent drugs" should be sold only on the prescription of a legally qualified medical practitioner.

Cypher Prescriptions.—The Council also considered a memorandum from the Pharmacy

Board dealing with cypher prescriptions. This matter was referred to the Ethical Committee for consideration and report.

Signing Prescriptions in Full.—It was reported that enquiries have been made on repeated occasions as to whether the *Medical Act Amendment Act* of 1916 had come into operation. The reply which had been given to enquiries was that the Act had received assent on December 22, 1916, and was therefore in force, but that it was doubtful whether any action would be taken for an infringement of the clause until the *Venereal Diseases Act* had come into force. In regard to whether a medical officer of a lodge would be compelled to sign in full each prescription in the patient's lodge book, the Secretary had received the following letter from the Public Health Department, dated February 23, 1917:—

"Adverting to your telephone communication re signing of prescriptions, I beg to state that I have discussed the matter with the responsible authorities, and have to inform you that the law allows no discretion in the matter; therefore the provisions of the *Medical Act*, 1916, No. 2870, must be carried out. This Act provides that:—

"Every written prescription of a legally qualified medical practitioner shall be dated and bear the address and usual signature (including the surname) of each practitioner."

"This Act is administered by the Medical Board, which is a branch of the Chief Secretary's Department.

"The Health Department is concerned only with signing, etc., prescriptions for venereal diseases. It is not proposed to take any action in this matter under the *Venereal Diseases Act* until the regulations are gazetted, but it must be clearly understood that in the meantime practitioners are responsible under the *Medical Act*.—(Signed E. ROBERTSON, Permanent Head.)"

The action of the Secretary in this connection was approved.

Suppressing Unqualified Practice.

At a recent meeting of the Council of the B.M.A. (Victorian Branch), Dr. D. Rosenberg said that he had seen a published report of a deputation to the Minister of Public Health, at which it had been urged that it should be made illegal for quacks to treat infectious diseases, and that the reply had been received that the Government was powerless to prevent treatment of this kind. He desired to point out that a Medical Bill would be introduced into Parliament at the beginning of the next session, and that the time was opportune for urging the inclusion of clauses to prevent quacks from treating all forms of disease. Some of the recommendations of the English Royal Commission on patent medicines might be introduced. He trusted that the Council would consider the matter.

Dr. McAdam said that the Council had received a representation from Ballarat concerning a case of diphtheria which had been treated by an unqualified and unregistered individual. The child had died. The Council had urged

upon the Minister of Public Health the expediency of allowing such a thing to happen. Accordingly a deputation from the Council had waited upon him, but the Minister had not thought it advisable to assume power to prevent unregistered persons from treating these cases. Dr. McAdam promised to bring the matter up before the Council at some future date, and assured Dr. Rosenberg that it would not be left unattended to.

Dr. Rosenberg asked the Council to insist on the abolition of all unqualified practice and on the restriction of the sale of patent medicines. The Labour Party had these objects on their platform, and would be bound to support the Branch.

Dr. McAdam stated that the Venereal Diseases Act was coming into force, and its operation would be helpful for future legislation.

National Insurance.

Dr. Geo. E. Clemons, retiring President of the Tasmanian Branch of the B.M.A., in the course of his annual address, said:—"We are still in the throes of a struggle against the nationalisation of the medical profession, and I cannot help thinking that, if there is one question which will enable us to keep a solid front and gain our ends, it is this one. If the profession fail to unite on it, I shall for ever despair of its doing so."

False Death Certificate.

The Victorian Full Court on March 1 delivered judgment in the appeal case of Dr. William Lowe, Heidelberg, who was convicted of having given a false death certificate in respect of a child who died at Diamond Creek.

The evidence showed that the child had been attended to by one Bottomley, a fifth-year medical student, who acted in emergencies for Dr. Lowe. Dr. Lowe went to see the child on the day of her death, but she had succumbed prior to his arrival. He gave the certificate on what he ascertained from Bottomley.

Mr. Justice A'Beckett said that the facts to which the certificate was given involved no difficulties or obscurity which might lead to misconception. That accused attended a child and saw a child were plain statements of simple facts. It appeared to be clear that when the accused made the statement, he knew it to be false, and that he has made it wilfully within the meaning of the section, although he considered himself justified in making it.

Mr. Justice Hodges said that the accused had made statements that he had attended the child on July 16, 1916, and that she died on that day. As a matter of fact, he had not attended the child at all. That matter was entirely within his own knowledge. On the facts the statements were false, were known to be false, and were intentionally made. There was a tendency to make the case look like one in which there was an effort to cover up a violation of the law, as the certificate of the unqualified person would not be taken, and the difficulty of getting the

certificate would lead to inquiry and so the accused gave the certificate to prevent inquiry.

Mr. Justice Cussen dissented. He did not regard the case as governed by the rule which was usually applicable—that ignorance of the general public law was no excuse. Here the accused did not rely on any such ignorance, but said that if there was a mistake, it was one of expression, and there the charge was in reference to a wilfully false statement; and as there really was such a mistake, the charge was not proved. He would say, in reference to such a charge, that an honest mistake, even as to the general law, might excuse.

Mr. Justice Hodges, in passing sentence upon the accused, said that when he heard the case, he was intensely sympathetic with his position, and that that sympathy, to a certain extent, still remained. He was surprised to hear that the British Medical Association had authorised the doing of a wrong. A document was sent to him which purported to show something about the British Medical Association. [The Secretary of the B.M.A. subsequently denied that any officer of the B.M.A. had sent any letter in connection with the case.—Ed. "A.J.P."] It was sent anonymously, and he had not read it. What had led him finally to think that the accused should not escape the act, was largely based upon the fact that he was a medical man. He knew the duty of giving those certificates, and supplying that information; and he knew, to some extent at any rate, why the Legislature had required certificates of death. He (his Honour) was, however, taking an extremely considerate view, perhaps a more considerate view than he ought, because he thought it possible that the object of the Legislature would be attained by that conviction being on record, and probably go forth to the world. The profession, and other persons in like position, might then know that there would be no hesitation in dealing with offences of that character.

Accused was sentenced to be imprisoned until the rising of the Court. The Court rose immediately.

Hospital Practice in Tasmania.

At the recent Annual Meeting of the Tasmanian Branch of the British Medical Association, at Hobart, a discussion took place on the question of hospital abuse. It was subsequently resolved unanimously:—"That, inasmuch as the Premier has refused to give the British Medical Association (Tasmanian Branch) a definite assurance that rich and well-to-do patients will not be admitted into State-aided hospitals, the association has decided that, unless the assurance is given by the Premier by March 1, 1917, that such abuse shall cease, to instruct all its members to resign forthwith from the honorary staffs of such hospitals."

The hon. secretary was instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Premier.

Lodge Dispensing Practice.

A doctor, writing in the *Medical Journal of Australia* (March 17), relates his experiences:—Residing in a bush township, no opposition

(as my confrere has gone on Service), I am under a bond to do his and my own work, and return him an agreed income. Our combined Lodges number about 326 members, paying 6s. 9d. a quarter, and for which the total income is £111 12s. per quarter. Deductions from this are:

Dispensing, 326 at 2/6	£40 15 0
Surgical Dressings, Instruments, etc.	8 10 0
Half Cost of Motor Expenses	13 0 0
Total	£62 12 0

Deduct this sum from income, leaving £49 net per quarter. Therefore, 326 members return me 3s. 4½d. per member per quarter. But, owing to the above agreement with my confrere (and which I intend to carry out loyally) further reduces my share of income to £18, or 4.320 pence, which sum, divided by 326 members, will be found equivalent to 1s. 1d. per member per quarter, or 4s. 4d. per annum net.

He concludes:—"When we read of wharf-labourers earning their £10 a week, through united effort and organisation, why must our profession continually eat the leek and be 'umblé?' We obtain no thanks or credit on this score; on the contrary, we are certainly despised by an 'intelligent democracy.' In fact, but yesterday I showed the above statement of figures to a Lodge officer; he laughed in my face and thought it a joke. How much longer must we endure this contempt?"

Dental.

Dental Board of Victoria.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the Board was held on Friday evening, the 16th February, 1917, at 8 o'clock, at the offices of the Board, 454 Collins-street, Melbourne.

The chair was occupied by the President (Mr. A. L. Elvins, J.P.), also present, Dr. Lewis, Dr. Yule.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Arrangements were completed for holding the Supplementary Examinations in February for the Diploma of Licentiate of Dental Surgery. Dr. Plowman was appointed co-examiner with Professor Masson in the subject of Chemistry; Dr. Iona was appointed co-examiner with Mr. L. A. Maxwell in the subject of Physiology.

A case of infringement of the provisions of the Dental Act was brought before the Board, and was promptly and effectively dealt with.

A large amount of correspondence was minuted and replied to.

The Board adjourned.

E. JOSKE, LL.B., Registrar.

Formulary.

Rat Poison.

No. 1.

Tartar emetic	1 oz.
Arsenic	1 oz.
Sugar	1 oz.
Lard	1 oz.

Make into a paste.

No. 2.

Petrolatum	8	av. ozs.
Phosphorus	$\frac{1}{2}$	av. oz.
Flour	8	av. ozs.
Sugar	8	av. ozs.

Dissolve the phosphorus in the petrolatum by means of a water bath until all is dissolved, then mix the flour and sugar into a stiff mass.

This preparation makes a luminous rat poison which shines at night, attracting the attention of rats.

Witch Hazel Cream.

Quince seed	$\frac{3}{4}$	ss.
Water	$\frac{3}{4}$	viii.

Make a mucilage and add

Distilled ext hamamelis	$\frac{5}{8}$	xv.
Oil rose geranium	Mxv.	
Alcohol	$\frac{3}{4}$	v.

M.S.A.

Powdered tragacanth	62	Gm.
Boric acid	15	Gm.
Glycerin	186	Gm.
Distilled witch hazel	950	mils. (Cc.)
Oil of neroli	1.5	mil. (Cc.)
Oil of bitter almond	.5	mils. (Cc.)

The finished preparation has the consistence of honey.

Skin Bleach.

Borax	gr. xv.
Glycerin	$\frac{5}{8}$ iv.
Hydrogen peroxide	$\frac{5}{8}$ iv.
Oil of bitter almonds	Miv.
Lanolin	$\frac{3}{4}$ i.

M.

For Earache.

Carbolic acid	Mvii.
Deod. tinct. opium	Mvi.
Cocaine muriate	gr. iii.
Atropine sulphate	gr. iii.
Gelatine	gr. xviii.
Glycerin	gr. CLviii.
Water	MLii.

Make 47 bougies and wrap in tin-foil.—*The Spatula*.

Ointment for Alopecia.

Sublimed sulphur	1 oz.
Resorcinol	1 oz.
Thymol	1 oz.
Lard, enough to make	8 ozs.

Directions: Apply locally twice a day.

Ointment for Burns.

Ichthyol	1 oz.
Zinc oxide	2 ozs.
Prepared chalk	3 ozs.
Starch	3 ozs.
Linseed oil	3 ozs.
Lime water	4 fl. ozs.

Directions: Apply on lint.

Nasal and Pharyngeal Sprays.

OIL BASE.

Benzoin	1 oz.
Liquid paraffin	1 pt.

Digest the benzoin in the paraffin, which must be of good quality, for twelve hours at a very gentle heat. Cool and filter. This spray is distinctly superior to the plain paraffin as a base for the oily sprays. It is sometimes referred to as benzoinated oil.

COMPOUND MENTHOL SPRAY.

Menthol	10 gr.
Camphor	10 gr.
Thymol	2 gr.
Oil of wintergreen	5 drops.
Oil base, to make	2 fl. oz.

To obtain a perfectly transparent product the menthol and the camphor must be dissolved in separate portions of the oil and afterward mixed. Otherwise a cloudy solution will be formed.

COMPOUND EUCALYPTUS SPRAY.

Oil of eucalyptus	30 mms.
Terebene	30 mms.
Menthol	3 gr.
Oil base	2 fl. oz.

ETHEREAL EUCALYPTOL SPRAY.

Eucalyptol	20 mms.
Creosote	10 mms.
Ether	2 fl. dm.
Oil of sweet almond, enough to make	1 fl. oz.

PHENOLIZED SPRAY.

Phenol (crystals)	10 gr.
Menthol	4 gr.
Oil base	1 fl. oz.

Mix. Liquefied phenol should not be used in this spray if a clear, transparent spray is desired.—*American Druggist*.

Inhalent.

R. Bals. Peruv., 4.0
Ol. Eucalypt.
Ol. Pini Sylvestris aa ad 32.0
<i>Fiat guttae.</i>

Saturate absorbent wool with the inhalent and put the wool in the bowl of a new wooden pipe, like a plug of tobacco. Instruct the patient to draw in air through the pipe and breathe it out through his nostrils.—*Dr. L. W. Bickle, in the Medical Journal*.

The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy

(Established 1886).

with which is incorporated

The Australasian Chemist and Druggist.

Published on the 20th of each Month

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Editorial.

POSSIBILITIES FOR PHARMACISTS.

Just at the time when Australian medical men and pharmacists are considering the question of restricting the sale of potent drugs, comes a timely article in the February issue of the *North-western Druggist*, which refers to several cases which came before the Supreme Courts of Illinois and Minnesota, dealing with the restriction of the sale of drugs and medicines to pharmacists. These cases involved the selling of proprietary medicines in sealed packages by persons other than pharmacists. The decisions rendered in these two cases were very similar. In substance it was held that inasmuch as the pharmacists knew nothing of the composition of proprietary

medicines which were sold in sealed packages, that the restriction of the sale to pharmacists could not, in any way, protect the public health. These decisions stand to-day, and have been referred to in practically every similar case during the last ten years. They form the basis upon which proposed legislation to restrict the sale of drugs and medicines must be formulated.

One feature in the Minnesota case stands out prominently. This is the statement of fact that the pharmacist has no knowledge of the composition of the secret formula preparations. Here, then, is a clear indication that if pharmacists knew of the composition of proprietary medicines, or even knew the active potent ingredients contained in such, they would then be in a position to safeguard and caution the public when selling such preparations. If the sale of drugs and medicines is to be restricted to pharmacists, some constitutional ground must be found on which to base such restriction of sale. At the present time the only ground on which pharmacists might ask for this restriction would seem to be that based upon the publication in part at least of the formula.

In the State of Iowa, the laws require that all drugs and medicines containing two per cent. or more of alcohol shall be sold only by retail pharmacists. The attorney-general of Iowa has upheld this law, presumably for the reason that inasmuch as the label indicates the presence of an active medicinal agent (namely, alcohol) that the retail pharmacist is in a position to caution or safeguard those who may purchase such preparation.

Australian legislation provides for this by requiring the disclosure on the label of potent drugs. It is on the grounds mentioned in the Minnesota case that an appeal for restricting the sale of potent and dangerous drugs should be made. The question might with advantage be considered by medical and pharmaceutical bodies in the different States. Our pharmacy laws should be amended so as to restrict to pharmacists the sale of all preparations containing any of the drugs which the Federal Government requires to be indicated on the label and other preparations containing potent drugs. Such an amendment should be upheld by our Governments, for pharmacists know the pharmacological nature of the active ingredients indicated by the label. The pharmacist is therefore in a position to protect the health and well-being of the public by giving advice or a word of caution when selling.

The Month.

Grocers' "Privileged" Competitors.

The Victorian Grocers' Association had commenced a campaign against what it calls the privileged and unequal competition of outside traders. It claims that the grocery trade is the worst sufferer in this respect. Consequently the association has decided "on a fight to a finish." Correspondence has been passing between the association and the Shops and Factories Department since the beginning of the year. In one letter the association claims that grocers pay their employees on the average 45s. 7d. per week. It contrasts this rate with certain alleged rates which other trades pay, e.g., 1444 confectionery shops pay 19s. per week; 252 chemists, employing 461 hands, at 34s. 7d. each per week; 1191 fruit shops, employing 259 hands, at 20s. 4d. per week. The letter goes on to say that a large number of these shops trade in groceries, and their long hours and low wages enable them to carry on at a lower rate of expense than the grocer, who, though stocking better quality goods, is forced to sell at a loss to meet this competition. A list of 48 grocers, who had gone insolvent or assigned their estates during 1916, was submitted to the Minister. On January 28, the Grocers' Association wrote to the Minister for Labour, requesting him to "Compel all shops stocking groceries to observe the grocers' hours of closing and pay the wages provided for by the Grocers' Wages Board Determination." No doubt the association, in pressing this point, has taken into consideration the fact that the principle it is fighting for may also be applied in respect of goods sold by grocers which really belong to other traders. Pharmacists certainly will not complain if the Factories Department adopts the views the Grocers' Association is now putting forward.

Professional Pharmacy.

Major Cossar, in his presidential address at the sixtieth annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, gave utterance to several thoughts which will repay study. There was a note of optimism running through his address which provided a soothing antidote to the oft-expressed opinion that pharmacy is in the wane. How often have we heard the story that with the growth of commercialism in pharmacy the professional side is declining. Is this a true presentment of the case? Is it any less a fact to-day than it was twenty years ago that the professional reputation and training of the pharmacist are his greatest assets, even when his business has developed more along commercial lines? What is it that gives the pharmacist his chief advantage over competitors in non-pharmaceutical lines, but his technical training and his better general knowledge? The pharmacist who is efficient, who systematically prepares himself to serve the public to his fullest capacity in a professional sense, will find that it pays him. Efficiency in education, suitable equipment, honest and capable service—these are the key notes on which the successful pharmacist bases his business.

Preliminary Education.

The Pharmacy Boards of Queensland and Victoria are proceeding on right lines in improving the standard of preliminary knowledge required of pharmaceutical students. Too much attention cannot be given to this important question. A low standard of preliminary knowledge tends to the multiplication of drug stores and the demoralisation of the practice of pharmacy. The time has gone by when any but the thoroughly educated student should be permitted to enter upon the pharmaceutical calling. By increasing the educational qualifications, pharmacy will be regulated on lines suitable to its proper development. The public needs only the best. These conditions can only obtain when the number of pharmacists is not in excess of the actual requirements. Evolutionary progress is going on along these lines. As standards are framed commensurate with the requirements of professional pharmaceutical service, so will the craft as a whole benefit. Those who look ahead see many changes coming. Unless the opportunity is taken to prepare for these, pharmacy will get into a backwash which it may take many years to emerge from.

"The Bulletin" on a Herbalist's Treatment.

Commenting on the case reported in this issue of a Chinese herbalist's treatment, the Sydney "Bulletin" (14/3/17) says:—

"All the horrors are not in Flanders or Armenia; some of them are in the next street. On December 1 last a little girl of five, daughter of a Smythesdale (Vic.) engine-driver, was so badly burned through her dress catching fire that the post-morteming doctor said one leg should have been amputated immediately, and that the spine was exposed and charred. Her parents weren't Huns or Turks, so they took her to a Chinese herbalist. He recommended the Ballarat hospital at once; but as they said they preferred yellow medicine to white, Ah Sin applied honey and liquorice powder, without dressing. The poor little mite grew no better on this treatment; but the parents had great faith in the slant-eyed fraud, so she continued getting no better for three long and horrible months—till February 27, when, being then a mere bag of bones, some of them charred, she passed to a world that can hardly be worse for her. After learning these hideous facts, the Coroner opined that the child died from "shock, arising from burns." The actual cause of death, of course, was gross ignorance—the gross ignorance of relatives; the grosser ignorance of a Chinese person who is permitted to treat dreadful burns and charred bones with honey and liquorice powder. The other day a man who wasn't a qualified pharmacist was fined heavily for measuring out a few drugs and compounding them according to a doctor's prescription. But Ah Sin, who isn't a qualified pharmacist, either, can weigh out his useless remedies without any doctor's prescription, and apparently the Law merely wishes him luck with his next victim."

Cash or Credit?

A writer in the *Retail Druggist* has something instructing to say on the question of "Meeting Chain Store Competition." A great deal de-

pend, he says, on the right use of credit. He favours a cash settlement once a week. Up to this limit, the credit system is legitimate. But any extension beyond these limits is dangerous because it is in reality nothing more or less than the loaning of money, which is not a retailer's but a banker's business and because it generally involves the loaning of money without any definite or sufficient security. The retailer who gets into this money lending habit invariably finds that he is piling up an accumulation of doubtful accounts and bad debts. He then soon finds that he himself is not able to meet his own obligations promptly—first, that he is not able to take care of his discounts and then that he is not able to meet his final due dates. This not only means that he is soon losing a considerable item in not being able to take his cash discounts, but being a slow customer, is not able to get credit from the best wholesaler or is not able to buy on their best terms. Being behind with his wholesaler will soon mean that he has to buy there irrespective of price. For in the nature of things the wholesaler will soon begin to protect himself against possible losses by asking slightly more, directly or indirectly, and the retailer is in no position to fight this attitude. This in turn will soon mean that the retailer is forced to raise his prices to his customers, and we have started a vicious circle that is swirling him rapidly towards the bankruptcy courts. In fact, it has been my experience that the failure to watch the credit that he gives and that he takes, is the greatest weakness — the greatest cause of failure in modern retailing. The financial sureness of everything on a cash basis is the one biggest element in chain stores success, and the average retailer cannot hope to compete with the chain store until he puts all his credit dealings with his customer and his wholesaler on a sound and rigid basis.

Unqualified Assistants.

Editorially the *Medical Journal of Australia* discusses the case of Dr. William Lowe, of Heidelberg, who gave a certificate of death in the case of a child who died under the treatment of an unqualified practitioner. It is pointed out that in Great Britain the employment of an unqualified assistant would be deemed infamous conduct in a professional respect entailing erasure from the Register. The offence is known as "covering." It is a dangerous practice, and is inimical to the best interests of the public. It has long been the endeavour of the profession to induce legislative bodies to declare practice by unregistered practitioners illegal for this reason. This principle has been established in connection with recent venereal diseases legislation. A practitioner who co-operates with a pharmacist, and who assists him to prescribe for a patient "covers" the practice of the pharmacist. Allowing a nurse to administer an anaesthetic under certain circumstances would also be regarded as an offence. The article concludes by stating that it is eminently desirable that all the Medical Boards should be endowed with powers to enquire into the conduct of practitioners who cover unregistered persons, and to remove their names from the Register on the production of legal evidence of guilt.

P. A. T. A.

A meeting of the P.A.T.A. Council was held on 9th February, under the chairmanship of Mr. S. Fripp, junr.

Correspondence from manufacturers, who thanked the P.A.T.A. for their services, was received.

Arrangements for issue of Annual Report and Balance-sheet and Annual Meeting were approved, and the members will be called together on Wednesday, 21st March, at 8.30, when the President will present the report for the year 1916.

New members were elected, and new issue of Price List authorised. This will be available shortly, and will contain several additions.

Wholesale Distributors, as well as certain manufacturers, have agreed to invoice all P.A.T.A. lines under special conditions as under:

"All articles on this invoice which are listed by the Proprietary Articles Trade Association of Victoria are sold subject to the conditions fixed by that Association. Lists on application. Acceptance of these goods will be deemed acceptance of these conditions."

This system of invoicing will doubtless be advantageous as making conditions of purchase and sale more binding, and this improvement is a further recommendation of the claims of this Association.

It has to be noted that under the P.A.T.A. method there are no secret profits. The position is openly and publicly declared, and the actions of this body are open to free criticism of any who consider themselves concerned.

Correspondence.

Letters submitted for publication must be addressed to the Editor, and should reach the Office not later than the 16th of the month. They should be written clearly and concisely, on one side of the paper only, and must be authenticated in each case by the name and address of the writer. The views expressed by correspondents are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor.

To The Editor, "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy."

Interpretation of an Order.

Sir,—I am enclosing an order sent to me to-day. I think it takes some making out, and "up" also. Perhaps some of your readers can fathom the riddle and fulfil the order next time. Needless to say the quantities have been enlarged in the fulfilment of the order.

The order, as interpreted by me, was for 1d. Turkey Rhubarb, 1d. Laudanum, but to the uninitiated it might be taken to be for yarkey bluhark and daldumum.

Yours, etc.,

QUERCUS.

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Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

60th ANNUAL MEETING.

REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDANCE—INTERESTING PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS—REVISING THE CURRICULUM—NEED OF ETHICAL STANDARD—MEETING CONDEMNNS TITLE OF "CONSULTING CHEMIST"—CONFERENCE WITH ASSISTANTS *re* WAGES BOARD.

The 60th annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia was held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on Wednesday, March 14, at 8.30 p.m.

The President (Major Cossar) occupied the chair, and there were also present—Messrs. Towl, Cochran, Leete, H. B. Taylor, Bailey, W. A. Ross, Lee, Piper, Garrick, Tait, Hembrow (Beechworth), Gulliver, White, Baird, Parry, Plowman, Pickford, Fleay (Ballarat), Sayer (Bendigo), Owen, Rankin, Huntsman, Keays, Reeve, Laurance, Longmore, Albert Vale, W. A. Taylor, Charles, Fisher, Pleasance, Lock, May, Sutcliffe, Murie, Davis, Gabriel Sare, Bartleman, Yelland, Barnard, Francis, Newman, Cheshire, Sayle, Attwood, Hughes and the Secretary (Mr. Butchers).

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Pickford, seconded by Mr. H. B. Taylor, the minutes of the 59th annual meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

RETURNING OFFICER'S REPORT.

The Secretary read the report of the Returning Officer, notifying the election of Messrs. Francis, Gabriel, Leete and Pickford as members of the Council, and Messrs. Shackell and Woodward as auditors. The President said that he had much pleasure in declaring these gentlemen duly elected.

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

On the motion of Mr. Baird, seconded by Mr. Sayer, the 59th annual report and financial statements, which had been printed and forwarded to members, were taken as read.

Mr. Pickford, in moving that they be received and adopted, said that he had often been asked what good the Society did? What was the use of becoming a member of it? He had met chemists who told him that it was not worth joining. It occurred to him, therefore, that it was worth while pointing out some of the work which the Society had done during the past year. A perusal of the annual report would show the large amount of useful work which had been accomplished. He referred particularly to the regulations under the Health Act. Had it not been for certain representations which had been made to the Chairman of the Board of Health by the Society pharmacists would have been seriously hampered in the sale of their own preparations. As it was, the Health Department was induced to amend the regulations in the direction asked for by the Council with considerable advantage

to pharmacists. Another matter which had engaged attention was the question of dispensing by nurses. The prompt measures which were taken prevented what might have been a very serious encroachment on the rights of pharmacists. It is quite unnecessary for him to point out how serious this matter would have been had the nurses been allowed to undertake dispensing duties after going through a very inadequate course in pharmacy. It was due also to the Society, in conjunction with the metropolitan association, that a successful outcome had been arrived at in connection with the registration of the trade mark "Septol." Another matter in which much useful work had been done was in connection with the fixing of a maximum price for infants' foods.

Mr. Pickford then referred to the formation of the pharmacists' corps. He thought that if individual pharmacists had taken this matter up some seven or eight years ago they would not have had the tremendous difficulty that had faced them in securing adequate recognition of pharmacists in the military service. Notwithstanding great opposition, tremendous strides had been made; he ventured to say that the improvement in the status of pharmaceutical chemists in the Australian army was something to be proud of. He congratulated Major Cossar on the excellent work he had done in this direction, and expressed the opinion that so far as Australian pharmacists were concerned they occupied a higher place in the army than any other country in the Empire. (Applause.) He was glad to be able to say that there had been an increased interest taken in the Society's affairs of late. This was evidenced by the present membership, which stood at 414. He thought that it was the bounden duty on the part of every chemist in Australia to become a member of the Society.

The President said that Mr. Pickford's reference to the membership reminded him of the fact that during the past seven years the Society's membership had more than doubled itself. There was still, however, a considerable percentage of pharmacists who had not yet seen their way to become members. He thought that many of these might be induced to join if only their attention could be drawn to the Society's work. Of course, there would always be a few who would accept all the advantages and still refuse to help in any way. He promised that the Council would leave

no stone unturned to still further add to the members' roll during the coming year.

Mr. Lee seconded the adoption of the report, which was agreed to without further discussion.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The President then delivered the following address:—

Gentlemen, — It is again my privilege to address you on the occasion of the Society's annual meeting, and I do so this year with more than ordinary pleasure, as we are to-night celebrating the 60th anniversary of our Society. The memorable meeting which led to the formation of the Pharmaceutical Society dates back to the 16th February, 1857, when a few enthusiastic pharmacists met together at the house of Mr. Croad, Bourke-street, Melbourne, and decided to take immediate steps to establish a Society on the lines of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. It was from this small beginning that our Society sprang. During the intervening years it has had many ups and downs. But I think we can now safely say that it has become a permanent and increasingly important and valuable institution. Pharmacists to-day have much reason to thank those early pioneers who did so much to establish the craft upon a proper legal basis, and although nearly 20 years elapsed before the Pharmacy Act was passed in 1876, the work which was done prior to that date by those associated with our Society undoubtedly paved the way for the passing of this useful piece of legislation.

But it is not my intention to speak at any length on this era in the Society's history, because I think we are all of one mind in acknowledging the efforts of our pharmaceutical leaders in the past. If we are to progress, our minds and energies must be unceasingly directed towards the future. The work which has been done will stand for all time, but with the changing conditions which we now have to deal with it is no good resting on the success of past efforts. More than ever it is essential that everyone, not only in this State, but throughout the Commonwealth, should combine his energy and influence in the direction of securing greater recognition at the hands of the State's for the qualified chemist. When we come to consider how really little the State gives us in the way of protection; how inadequately pharmacists as a whole are remunerated, it is plain to us all that we cannot rest content with the present position of affairs. Undoubtedly during the past few years a great deal has been done in consolidating the interests of pharmacists, and much of what I would call useful ground work, has been accomplished. I think, however, we are now approaching the time when we should take a further move forward. The curriculum of pharmaceutical education is very little different now to what it was when the Act was passed in 1876. Many changes in pharmacy have occurred since then, but our educational policy has only very slightly been altered to meet them. Sooner or later the whole position must be reviewed and our

syllabus revised to bring it more into accord with modern developments. Commercial training, for instance, has almost become an essential factor for business men if they wish to succeed in life, and I fail to see any reason why some systematic training in this direction should not be made a compulsory feature of our pharmaceutical legislation.

Turning to the more scientific side, it has always been a matter of regret to me that our Pharmacy Act did not give us power to insist upon a course of lectures in practical pharmacy. The Society has endeavoured to overcome this difficulty by instituting a course of lectures upon this subject which are given after the materia medica lecture by Mr. Turner. Special classes for the final examination are also held on Wednesday afternoons. Undoubtedly these classes have been a great factor in assisting students to pass their final examination and in providing them with a good deal of instruction which, strictly speaking, they should have received during their apprenticeship. Bacteriology and urine analyses are also subjects which a qualified chemist should have more than a rudimentary knowledge of. There may be other directions in which improvements can be made, but I merely indicate these to you with a view of promoting thought on the subject.

Speaking generally, this pharmaceutical year has been a notable one. I think any member who peruses the annual report of the Council must candidly admit that no effort has been spared in any direction to advance the interests of pharmacists, and that whilst success has not always met us in everything we have undertaken, still, it will be generally recognised that, on the whole, we have made a very considerable progress. My own impression is that the whole tone of pharmacy in Victoria is tending to improve. We are now imbued with a better feeling towards each other, and there is a distinct tendency to adopt a line of ethical conduct which must greatly add to the standard of our calling in the future. Our problem has always been to know how to deal with the pharmacist who deliberately keeps himself outside the pale of the Society, who remains oblivious to all considerations of decent conduct towards his brother pharmacists, and who, without compunction and fear of consequences, carries on a class of business which more reputable men would scorn to be associated with. It would unquestionably help us if we possessed certain disciplinary powers over pharmacists of this description, who by their doubtful conduct do much to prejudice the craft as a whole.

But if we are to expect further privileges we must be prepared to accept additional responsibilities ourselves. It is useless to ask for concessions unless we are able to justify them. It is only by putting our own house in order and scrupulously observing the requirements of the law that

we can induce the Government to grant us further recognition. I am one of those who have a firm faith in the future. I do not think pharmacy is played out. The pessimist has been telling us that story for many years. But we are still able to carry on. Let us take our calling seriously. We have exceptional opportunities for demonstrating our work to the community, and feelings of modesty or humility should not dissuade us from taking advantage of these opportunities. The world takes us very much at our own valuation, and although humility in some cases is a virtue it is not always so.

Turning now to another question, it is very gratifying to me as President of this Society to have seen the consummation of what turned out to be a very harmonious conference with our medical friends on the venereal diseases question. I have no hesitation in my own mind in affirming that pharmacists in voluntarily relinquishing any supposed rights they may have had to treat venereal cases have done the right thing. I believe in the long run their self-abnegation in this direction will be more than repaid. I know that the members of the Council of the British Medical Association appreciated the keen sense of duty which actuated the pharmaceutical representatives at the conference I have referred to. In moving about amongst pharmacists, I am also surprised to find how few there really are who have criticised adversely what has been done. At the same time, it must be admitted that something has been given away. I think in return for this concession on our part we are entitled to ask the State for some compensation in other directions. It has always been a matter of surprise to me that, whilst licensed victuallers only are permitted to deal in spirituous liquors, any person, even the most ignorant, may dabble in dangerous drugs and medicines. I believe that if we approach this question in a proper spirit something will be done in the direction indicated in the near future.

The only other matter I desire to refer to this evening is the question of the progress which has been made in connection with military pharmacists. It is indeed hard to realise that barely 12 months have elapsed since the Council of the Society was first asked to nominate a senior pharmacist for this State. Since then the progress which has been made has been most marked, and I venture to say that at the present time the Australian pharmacist holds the premier position in the Empire so far as his relations with the military authorities are concerned. It is indeed wonderful to look back and see what immense strides have been made since the matter first came under attention. It certainly indicates that if a few energetic and enthusiastic men make up their minds to achieve certain results, they can nearly always secure them if they are persistent and do not lose heart. Australian pharmacists owe a great deal to a few men of this description, who, in season and out of season, never neglected an opportunity of pressing forward the case of reform as far as the pharmacist's position in the military was concerned.

In conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation of the great assistance I have received

from my colleagues on the Council, the lecturers at the College, the staff generally, and particularly to our friend and secretary, Mr. Butchers. (Applause.) There has not been the slightest discord during the year, and although some of us have had strong convictions on certain subjects, we have not hesitated to fall in with the majority when the necessity arose for united action. I trust that this spirit of amity will animate us all during the coming year; that our work will go on and prosper, and that when we meet again, as we all hope to do in another 12 months' time, the hopes that are now written large in every heart will be realised, and that peace will once more smile upon us. Had it not been for the war this Diamond Jubilee of the Society would have been associated with functions of a social nature suitable to so notable an occasion, but under the conditions now ruling the Council thought it was only right and proper that nothing out of the ordinary should mark its celebration. There is one other matter I desire to refer to before I sit down. I do not think we should forget our fallen brethren. At this time last year we were discussing sending our congratulations to Aleck Chapman on his promotion. To-night we are mourning his loss. And so it has been with others. Many of our members have freely given their sons to the cause of right and justice. To all who have suffered in this way, we can only express our deep sympathy and consolation. I desire to thank you all for the patient hearing you have accorded me, and I trust that the remainder of the deliberations of the evening will be characterised by that sweet reasonableness and concord without which we cannot hope to succeed.

Mr. Lee said that the address of the President had recalled to his mind the necessity of pharmacists presenting a united front when any joint action for the common good required to be taken. Only recently when members of the Council were interviewing members of Parliament one prominent politician said to him that while he was very sympathetic to the requests which were being made, he thought it was a very great pity that pharmacists were not directly represented in Parliament. It was very difficult to get the average member to listen very seriously to what pharmacists had to place before them. He only desired to mention this point because it was so absolutely necessary that if they were to make progress they should not be a divided body. (Applause.)

TITLE OF "CONSULTING CHEMIST."

Mr. Pickford said he desired to move, in accordance with notice given:—

"That in the opinion of this meeting the use of the title 'Consulting Chemist' by registered pharmaceutical chemists is inimical to the best interests of pharmacy."

He said that this question had been before the Council for a considerable time. As had been stated by the President, pharmacists were now working towards a higher level than they had been satisfied with in the past. It was, therefore, very im-

portant that they should place themselves in a proper relationship towards the public. According to the manner in which they regarded themselves, so would they be judged by the general community. If they wished to keep on the ascendant, they should make themselves worthy of their position. The President had already alluded to the progress which had been made in recent years. In another direction the Pharmacy Board was taking a forward move. It was endeavouring to induce the University to accept the pharmaceutical curriculum as an entrance to the University. All this was tending towards the elevation of pharmacy. So far as the title "Consulting Chemist" was concerned, he thought that the use of it implied a higher qualification than the ordinary pharmacist possessed. He did not think it right that any chemist should take advantage of his brother pharmacists in this manner, and endeavour to place himself upon a higher pedestal than the Medical Act entitled him to. The Council was endeavouring to induce the Government to put down quackery, and suppress herbalists, clairvoyants and other unqualified persons who dabble in medicines. If success was to be attained in this direction, no room should be left for critics to say that pharmacists were guilty of similar practices. Quite recently a conference had been held with representatives of the medical profession. He thought that the result of that conference was to create a better impression in the minds of medical men regarding the aims of pharmacy. It was with a view of placing the matter beyond doubt that he had been induced to move the resolution. Under clause 74 of the Society's constitution, the Council was empowered to deal with members guilty of questionable conduct. The passing of the resolution, which he had moved, would indicate what the views of the Society were. It was moved with a view of its moral effect. He did not think that the Council had any intention of taking any drastic action which would not be in the interests of members generally. Someone had said that, given 12 men on a Council, you would always find seven sane men who would be fair and reasonable. (Laughter.) He commended the resolution to them, and trusted it would be passed.

Mr. Towl seconded the motion *pro forma*.

The President said that he fully endorsed Mr. Pickford's resolution. He thought that the great bulk of members would be in accord with it. Anything they could do to put down quackery would help pharmacists in the long run. He hoped that those present would not look upon the matter in a personal light, but endeavour to consider it from the standpoint of pharmacy generally.

Mr. Owen said that he was quite in accord with the resolution. He trusted that it would be agreed to and given full publicity in the press. It would probably have a good effect if this were done.

The President put the motion to the meeting, and declared it carried.

Mr. Hughes rose to oppose the resolution. A point of order was raised as to his right to discuss the resolution, seeing that it had been de-

clared carried. The President said he would allow Mr. Hughes to speak. Mr. Hughes went on to say that from time immemorial chemists had been consulted by the public to their mutual advantage. Chemists were frequently an intermediary between the public and the doctor. People went to the chemist because they could not afford to pay a consulting fee every time they wanted medicine. He had always found chemists, as a body, reputable men, and he regarded the present resolution as being simply a sop to the medical Cerberus. If they carried this resolution they would gain little and suffer much. In the last issue of the *Journal* he noticed a fierce attack on chemists by a medical man, who stated that they had no more knowledge of anatomy than a butcher had. He did not think the Society could do anything to prevent reputable chemists prescribing or attending minor surgical cases. Pretty well all the cases of the latter description related to the patching up of wounds and stopping bleeding.

Major Cossar: We are not out to stop that.

Mr. Hughes: I do not say that I approve of the title "Consulting Chemist."

Mr. Fleay: Under the terms of the motion, Mr. Hughes would not be prevented from prescribing or undertaking minor surgical cases.

Mr. Hughes: I think there are many other things which might be done before taking action to penalise chemists. I desire to move an amendment.

Mr. Lee rose to a point of order. He asked for the President's ruling as to whether an amendment could be received, seeing that the motion had been carried.

The President said that he had allowed Mr. Hughes to speak, as he did not wish to stifle discussion.

Mr. Pickford said that while Mr. Lee was technically correct, he thought that Mr. Hughes might be allowed to continue.

Mr. Hughes said he held no brief for the quack, but he did not like to see them giving away too much to the medical man. He moved as an amendment:—

"It is desirable that this Society should only take steps to deal with members guilty of questionable practice or dishonourable conduct."

Mr. Laurance seconded the amendment.

Mr. Lee said that he thought the amendment superfluous, as it was already covered by the Articles of Association. The Council already had power to exclude members guilty of dishonourable conduct. He thought the term "Consulting Chemist" was a misnomer. Pharmacists were not consulting chemists, and he did not think they had any right to the title. Because a man was able to build a house, he might just as well style himself a "consulting carpenter."

Mr. Keays said he certainly thought that the title of "Consulting Chemist" should not be used by pharmacists. At the same time, he did not altogether like Mr. Pickford's motion, because he

felt it was hitting at counter-prescribing. (Voices: No!) He was totally opposed to sending the resolution to the daily newspapers, because it would be misinterpreted, and the public would arrive at a wrong conclusion.

Mr. Hughes said that whilst he felt quite assured that there was no intention of interfering with chemists prescribing, he felt that under the terms of the resolution action might be taken later on.

The President said that all that the Council wished to do was to make it quite clear that the Society was opposed to chemists using the title referred to. There were one or two isolated cases where pharmacists rigged up consulting rooms at the back of their shop and went in for a regular consulting practice. This was contrary to the provisions of the Medical Act, and as a Society he did not think they should countenance it. No pharmacist had anything to fear from the resolution. It was aimed at the man who used the title to make the public believe that he had higher qualifications than he really possessed.

Mr. Fisher said he trusted the Council would not send the resolution to the press. It would lead the public to believe that chemists had no right to prescribe.

The President said that he would meet Mr. Fisher's wishes in this regard. There was only a small number of members who used the title "Consulting Chemist." Only flagrant cases would be dealt with.

Mr. Pickford, replying, said that Mr. Hughes had rather misunderstood the spirit of the resolution. All that the Council desired to do was to place themselves in a right position with the public and the medical profession. He read certain advertisements which appeared in the press under the name of a registered pharmaceutical chemist. He could not imagine anything more misleading and unfair.

Mr. Hughes said that when he rose to speak he did not think that Mr. Pickford's resolution had been carried. He had intended his own resolution to be an amendment to the motion.

The President said that although the motion had been carried he was quite willing to accept Mr. Hughes's amendment.

Mr. Fleay said that the matter had been fully discussed, and he therefore moved that the question be now put. Mr. Lee seconded the motion, which was carried. Mr. Hughes's amendment was then put to the meeting and declared lost, only the mover and seconder voting for it. Mr. Pickford's motion was then carried by 41 votes to 2.

DISCUSSION RE WAGES BOARD.

The President asked the Secretary to submit the report of the Council in reference to this matter.

Mr. Butchers said that since the Wages Board proposals were shelved at the end of the last Session of Parliament the Council had been carefully investigating the whole question, both in Victoria and the other States. A special com-

mittee, consisting of Messrs. Lee and Pickford, was appointed to go into the matter fully and submit a report to the Council. This report was considered at the March meeting, together with an application from the Victorian Association of Chemists' Assistants for a friendly conference to discuss the question of a Wages Board. Opinions received from men in the other States competent to judge favoured conciliation between masters and assistants. Information was also laid before the Council relative to the present position and the attitude of the assistants. The Council had good reason to believe that a further petition would be presented to the Minister of Labour for a Wages Board shortly. After giving careful consideration to the whole question, the Council recommended that a conference between representatives of the various pharmaceutical bodies and the assistants should be arranged with a view of ascertaining the views of the latter in regard to the appointment of a Wages Board for persons employed in dispensing, compounding or selling drugs or medicines. After the conference had been held (should it be decided to apply for a Wages Board), it was recommended that the Council should arrange a deputation to the Minister of Labour with a view of discussing details and of ascertaining his mind on the subject.

The President said that in order that members might feel free to discuss the matter fully and without restraint, it had been decided not to publish a report of the debate.

The discussion was opened by Mr. Pickford and continued by Messrs. Gulliver, Rankin, Keays, Fleay, Sayer, Towl, Owen, Lock and Yelland. Mr. Lee replied on behalf of the Council.

After a discussion lasting for an hour and a half, the report of the Council was adopted by 32 votes to 8.

SYMPATHY FOR CAPTAIN WILLIAMS.

Mr. Towl said he thought that a letter sent to Captain Williams, extending the sympathy and condolence of those present in the loss of his son, would be appreciated. He moved that such a letter be forwarded. Mr. Fleay seconded the motion. Captain Williams' son had made the supreme sacrifice. To send a letter to his father was the least they could do. His son had realised that the path of duty was the way to glory. The resolution was carried.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. H. B. Taylor moved a hearty vote of thanks to the President, Major Cossar. This was carried with acclamation. In responding, Major Cossar expressed his pleasure at presiding over so large an attendance of members. He again urged them to pull together and sink their individual differences. Such a policy was the only way to succeed. (Applause.)

The meeting then adjourned.

Australian Army Medical Corps Reserve.

OFFICIAL LIST OF PHARMACISTS ON RESERVE.

The following list contains the establishment strength of the A.A.M.C. Reserve in the six military districts:—

1st MILITARY DISTRICT.

Queensland.

Hon. Captain (1).

Cowley, R. C.

Hon. Lieutenants (8).

Connolly, T. J. P. (18/4/10).
Morris, J. F. P. (18/4/10).
McGuckin, H. J. (18/4/10).
Hall, T. F. (18/4/10), A.I.F.
Doyle, G. P. (1/1/16).
Adcock, D. (10/2/16).
Moran, H. S. F. (10/2/16).

2nd MILITARY DISTRICT.

New South Wales.

Hon. Captain (1).

Wadsworth, A. (28/2/16).

Hon. Lieutenants (15).

Wright, F. (22/11/09).
Archer, W. J. (22/11/09).
Hume, W. C. (22/11/09).
Woolford, A. B. (22/11/09).
Roper, A. E. (22/11/09).
Gray, F. P. J. (22/11/09).
Davey, H. H. (22/11/09).
Geary, J. J. (22/11/09).
Newton, A. J. (22/11/09).
Meagher, M. (22/11/09).
Hill, J. R. (22/11/09), A.I.F.
Martin, R. A. S. (22/11/09).
Ballhausen, L. W. (21/3/10).
Newman, A. H. (6/2/11).
Rogers, S. H. (4/5/14).
Hunter, W. J. (15/7/15).
Beattie, S. M. (20/8/15).
Morris, G. (20/8/15).
de la Mothe, C. J. (10/10/15).
Lane, J. C. (10/10/15).
Johns, J. A. (10/10/15).
Cook, J. W. (8/11/15).
Freeman, F. F. (10/12/15).

3rd MILITARY DISTRICT.

Victoria.

Hon. Captain (1).

Cossar, D. A. (10/2/16).

Hon. Lieutenants (15).

Mulhall, P. J. (9/10/11).
Evans, D. (1/10/14).
Oaten, F. E. (1/4/15).
Roche, R. J. (1/7/15).
Dartnell, B. P. (10/10/15).
Prout, G. S. (10/12/15).

Murie, A. B. (1/1/16).
Huntsman, A. V. (1/1/16).
Walters, H. B. (1/1/16).
Keig, H. B. (1/1/16).
Skewes, C. T. (1/1/16).
Richmond, H. H. (1/1/16).
Evans, E. P. (28/2/16).
Nixon, H. (28/2/16).
Eason, L. (28/2/16).
Quinn, A. M. (28/2/16).
Nicholas, W. D. (17/3/16).

Scientists.

Hon. Lieut. A. C. D. Rivett (27/8/15).

4th MILITARY DISTRICT.

South Australia.

Hon. Captain (1).

Fox, R. O.

Hon. Lieutenants (8).

Scammell, L. R. (1/2/10).
Milliken, J. (10/10/15).
Young, T. M. (16/3/16).
Porter, W. H. (16/3/16).
Gryst, E. J. T. F. P. (16/3/16).
Magarey, W. T. (16/3/16).
Tregonning, M. P. (16/3/16).
Moore, H. V. (16/3/16).

5th MILITARY DISTRICT.

Western Australia.

Hon. Captain (1).

George, J. B. (27/4/16).

Hon. Lieutenants (5).

Cochrane, J. W. C. (20/2/11).
Cooper, J. G. (30/6/12).
Neale, F. H. (2/6/13).
Bingemann, H. H. (2/6/13).
Howling, H. O. (23/11/14).
Highman, A. G. (1/4/15).
Faithful, S. J. (1/1/16).

6th MILITARY DISTRICT.

Tasmania.

Hon. Captain (1).

Drake, W. B. (28/2/16).

Hon. Lieutenants (5).

Greeves, J. A. (24/1/10).
Ellis, S. C. (20/3/11).
Elliott, J. R. (17/4/16).
Burton, W. G. (15/10/16).
Cassidy, J. B. (15/10/16).
Drew, H. G. J. (15/10/16).

It will be noticed that in most of the States the establishment strength of the Reserve has been exceeded.

War Notes.

Presentation to Mr. M. R. Battarbee.

The North Melbourne and Essendon Chemists' met at a social gathering at Mr. J. H. Goode's pharmacy, Moonee Ponds, for the purpose of presenting to Mr. M. R. Battarbee, who is leaving for the front on active service, a case of pipes and tobacco pouch, suitably inscribed. The President (Mr. Reid), in making the presentation, voiced the esteem and regard in which Mr. Battarbee was held by his fellow-members, and wished him a good trip, the best of health and luck, and a safe return. Messrs. W. H. Beck and W. M. Jewkes also spoke on behalf of the members.

Mr. Murton, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Battarbee, briefly responded, thanking the members for their handsome tokens and good wishes for the future of his partner, which he would have much pleasure in conveying to Mr. Battarbee, and which, he was sure, would be greatly appreciated by him.

Military Cross.

Mr. T. A. Dickson, Pharmacist, Geelong, has received word that his son, Captain Everard Dickson, an old Geelong Grammarian, had been awarded the Military Cross for his good work when commanding a machine gun section in the fighting on the Somme at Fricourt, Mametz Wood, Delville Wood and Ginchy. Captain Dickson had just been admitted to practise as a barrister at Gray's Inn, London, when war broke out. He enlisted with one of the British regiments, and soon obtained his commission as lieutenant. He was in the early fighting in France, and was wounded in the arm. The bullet was extracted in London, and a few weeks later he was back again at the front.

Killed in Action.

The Mayor of Malvern (Cr. R. Wilks), at the meeting of the council, held on March 5, referred to the recent death at the front of Sergt. R. Andrews, son of Mr. A. Andrews, pharmacist, a prominent local resident. Mr. Andrews had three sons, all of whom had volunteered, and two had been accepted. Mr. Andrews had associated himself with recruiting work since the outbreak of war, and had been an active worker in the several recruiting campaigns. Considerable sympathy was felt for Mr. Andrews, and the members of his family. The council resolved to send a letter expressing its deepest sympathy.

The Word "Anzac."

The Governor-General by Proclamation, dated 14th February, prohibited under the Customs Act the importation of goods bearing the words "Anzac" or any word resembling "Anzac."

Interned Civil Servant.

An order in the Commonwealth "Gazette," of 7th March, reveals the fact that on February 12, 1916, Heinrich Konrad Otto Willgerodt, Customs

analyst, in Sydney, was arrested and interned. The authorities have intimated their intention to suspend Willgerodt from the service during the period of his internment, and the Governor-General has ordered that no salary shall be payable to him while his employment is so suspended. Willgerodt was formerly chief assistant in Melbourne to Mr. Percy Wilkinson, Federal Analyst.

Lieut. W. Gordon Jewkes.

Mr. Wallace M. Jewkes has received several letters from the front, giving further particulars of his son's death, which occurred on January 10. Lieut.-Colonel R. Rankine, commanding officer, wrote that Gordon fell while gallantly leading a raid against the German trenches, at 6 p.m. on January 9. In conveying this information, Colonel Rankine says "the 30th Battalion mourns



to-day the loss of an excellent officer and a gallant gentleman." Captain C. R. Hutton, O.C. of the company, wrote:—

"I suppose you will be anxiously awaiting news from someone who has been associated with you since for the last few months. I am the O.C. of his company, and take this opportunity of giving you some particulars as to the manner in which he met his death. He took part in a raid on the enemy's trenches, and when in them, at the entrance of a dugout, after calling on the occupants to surrender, was going in when he was shot at through a concealed loophole in the side of the entrance, and hit on the head. His men carried him back to our lines, and he was immediately sent to hospital, where he received every care, but passed away on the morning of the 10th January. His loss is deeply felt by the officers of the company and myself, as he was a great pal of ours, and was such a splendid fellow and com-

panion, and a grand soldier, being loved by his men. On behalf of the officers and men of the company, I wish to offer you our heartfelt sympathy at your great loss, but feel sure that you cannot but feel proud at the manner in which he met his death, as he would have wished it, at the head of his men, and fighting for his God and country."

Staff-Sergt. Dispenser to R. D. Stahle wrote:—"I am very sorry to be writing you on such a sad subject as your son's death, but I think that these few details might be valued by you. We were very friendly on the transport coming over and in England. He was very popular with everyone, nearly all the N.C.O.'s of his battalion coming down at intervals yesterday to ask how he was progressing, and they were very cut up indeed when I gave them the bad news. Early in the morning, although his condition was reported as critical, we hoped that he would pull through. At dusk the evening before we intensely bombarded the enemy trenches, and under cover of this barrage he with others 'went over' on one of our frequent raids. They sent up very lights in rapid succession, and their machine guns rattled frantically. We pitied our poor boys whom we knew were working their way through the jungle of entanglements in 'No Man's Land.' Lieut. Jewkes led his party successfully, bombing as they went, until they reached one of Fritz's famous dugouts, protected by a strong steel door. One of his party, Sgt. Hamilton, came in with six wounds. This is his story:—"Jewkes called on them to surrender, but they refused, and he sent me for some explosives to blow in the door. I returned with it to see him fall unconscious, shot through the head with a revolver pointed through a small aperture. I carried him out, and met a party in 'No Man's Land,' to whom I handed him and returned to see the door successfully blown in. We hurled bombs through it, and killed three of the survivors, who tried to rush out, Corp. Barclay (who fought well) and a Russian named Carlsen and I were all wounded. By the way, Barclay has since died; he was conscious, but very bad when we dressed him. The Russian was quite lively, but had about sixty wounds from head to foot, some of them pretty bad. I believe that he will recover. We found that the other parties had retired. We then made our way out of the trenches, and managed to reach our own parapet. I have heard that the party did pretty well, particularly this sergeant. Lieut. Jewkes arrived here unconscious. Everyone agrees that he died a very gallant death."

Lieut. Jewkes wrote to his father and mother on the day of the raid. His letter, which was received on March 13, read:—"I am afraid that you will think me rather gloomy in writing in the following strain, but, of course, one has to take the necessary precautions at these times. The fact is that our battalion is carrying out a raid on the enemy trenches to-morrow night, and I am one of the chosen volunteers. There are three of us altogether. Of course, we are considered the elite of the battalion, and I am proud to be in the position, for it shows that I have the confidence of those over me, which is a great factor

at these times of great tests. This war business which makes or mars a man as regards the possession of those qualifications which are expected in a real man. I am delighted to know that my superiors think me in possession of those qualifications. If I should meet with bad luck, and don't get back, I don't want you to mourn for me, but just think of it in the light that you have given a son in a great cause, and that he did his duty as a man. I'm afraid my personal belongings amount to practically nil, but all there is will be sent home to you, and if there is any money sent home, I should like you to give it to the dependents of some soldier who was killed in action. It will be very little I know, but it will serve to show an officer's appreciation of his men, and I can tell you that they are marvels, and the finest chaps one could wish to meet.—Your loving son, GORDON."

Letter from Egypt.

Private J. W. Nobbs, Ph.C., writing from Egypt on February 2, says:—"I still hold the rank of private, although it is about two months since I was recommended by our O.C. for promotion, and I have been doing nothing else but dispensing since our arrival here. I daresay in due course something good will come of it, but it takes time. We are kept pretty busy here now, the recent activities in Egypt having supplied us with a number of customers. A party of us were granted special leave last Sunday, for the purpose of visiting Memphis and Sakkara, and we had a most interesting trip. The palm and cotton plantations through which we travelled by train to Badrashein were really beautiful, and the native mud villages most interesting. From Badrashein, which is over 20 miles from Cairo, we took donkeys, and our first stop was Memphis, where we inspected the remains of ancient temples, statues, etc. We here also saw a beautiful and recently-discovered sphinx of Amenophus, 2nd ruler of Memphis. This was in a surprisingly well-preserved state. From here we went to Sakkara, the city of tombs, where, at one time, the whole of the people's time must have been taken up in waiting for great people to die, and in preparing their tombs. From one point on the trip, I was able to count as many as sixteen pyramids at the one time. We visited all the tombs at Sakkara, and were astounded by the wonderful work inside, which, in most cases, is over 5000 years old. The hieroglyphics are not only very interesting, but are very delicately carved, and really must be seen to be appreciated. We were indeed fortunate in having been granted the opportunity of seeing these places at such a time as this. I am enclosing some photographs, which may be of interest. I now get the Journal regularly, and look forward to its coming every month."

Dental Corps.

CASE OF MR. G. P. PHILPOTTS.

In the House of Representatives on March 1 in the following questions were asked:—

Mr. Boyd.—Can the Assistant Minister for Defence tell me why Mr. George E. Payne

Philpotts, married man, and one of the first members of the dental profession to take an interest in Army dentistry, was refused a commission in the Dental Corps, seeing that he was among the very first to offer your services for the front?

Dr. Maloney.—I ask the Minister why was Dr. C. H. Griffiths, L.D.S., M.A.C.D., refused a commission in the Dental Corps. Also, why is it that so many single men are retained in positions in the Dental Corps when they could go to the front, whilst married men are refused such positions?

Dr. Maloney.—I ask the Minister, also, why should Major Hall, Dean of the Faculty of the University of Melbourne, after fifteen or seventeen years of military training, hold a position at Victoria Barracks as head of the Dental Corps which could be filled by Major C. Morley, who has just returned from active service in France?

Mr. Groom said he would endeavour to get an answer to the questions.

On March 6, Mr. Groom said that no fresh appointments were being made in dental services overseas. In the third military district there were ten single men employed in the Dental Reserve. All of these had volunteered, but there were no positions available in the A.I.F. Regarding Major Hall's appointment, Mr. Groom said that his position was a part-time one. He was recommended for the position by the representatives of the dental profession, and was actively engaged in the practice of his profession when so appointed. Major C. Morley was a whole-time officer, and, although a registered dentist, he had not practised that profession for many years.

Died on Service.

Corporal T. A. Ottey, of the dental corps, died at Salisbury Plain a few days ago. Deceased was a native of Castlemaine, and was the youngest son of the late Mr. W. Ottey, a registered chemist, who for 40 years was secretary and dispenser of the Castlemaine Hospital.

Private Victor L. Chegwidde, son of the late Mr. Francis Chegwidde, chemist, of South Melbourne, and of Mrs. Chegwidde, of 190 William-st., Darlinghurst, Sydney, died of pneumonia in the Twenty-sixth General Hospital on 6th February. Private Chegwidde, who was a chemist's assistant, enlisted in Western Australia, and was employed as dispenser on a hospital ship. His brother, Private Francis W. Chegwidde, is still on active service.

Aspirin and Lysol.

Interesting Debate in Parliament.

In the Federal House of Representatives on March 1 Mr. W. H. Kelly said:—

In the early stages of the war I urged upon the Government the total prohibition of the use of enemy trade marks and descriptions. A considerable time after the matter was first ventilated the then Hughes Government accepted the proposition, and everybody thought that it was to be put into operation. As a matter of fact, that policy has been put in universal operation, except in regard to the two trade names of "aspirin" and "lysol." Honourable members will

recollect that the argument which led the Government to accept the proposition to prohibit the use of enemy trade marks and descriptions in Australia was that unless some such step were taken we should be protecting, during a state of war, German ownership in the goodwill of those articles, and after the war the original German owners would step in and again derive the benefit. In respect of every trade mark and description, with the exception of the two I have mentioned, this embargo has since rested, but it seems to be impossible to move the Government in regard to the names "aspirin" and "lysol." In the first place a licence was granted for the local manufacturing of aspirin, the ingredients of which are well known to every doctor; the drug itself is manufactured by dozens of firms throughout the world under different names. It was the name "aspirin" that was of value to the German producer. Instead of preventing the use of the name in Australia the Government has seen fit to grant a licence for the local production of the drug under the name "Nicholas-aspirin." Originally the licence was granted to four persons, three of whom had German Christian or surnames. The man to whom the licence has now been given has the English name of Nicholas but his Christian names are "Harry Wolff." (This is incorrect. Harry Wolff Nicholas retired from the firm some months ago.—Ed. A.J.P.) When visiting Sydney a few days ago I noticed that the whole window of a German chemist's shop contained nothing but Nicholas-aspirin. That fact may be merely coincidental, but I am confident that every patriotic German will do his utmost to keep alive a trade name like "aspirin," because of the value of it to German manufacturers. We must wipe out this sort of thing, and I ask the Minister for the Navy to look into the question, and see whether he cannot stop the special exemption that has been extended to the holders of aspirin and lysol patent rights. The Solicitor-General has informed me that the Department has made a search of the birth certificate and place of origin of the gentleman who is licensed to manufacture aspirin. He is an Australian, and his father was born in Liverpool, England. But if the Minister will look into the window of the chemist in Sydney to whom I have referred, he will see of what value the continuance of this licence is to German industry. I dare say that German chemists throughout Australia do not hesitate to make a special line of this particular product. It is probably a very excellent product, as good as any other product of this well-known drug that is manufactured; but do not forget that the keeping alive of the name of the German article cannot fail to be of service to the German holders of the patent rights after the war.

Mr. Mathews (Melbourne Ports).—I had the pleasure of introducing a deputation to the Prime Minister prior to his departure to England on the question of the use of German names in connection with chemicals and drugs, and the manufacturing and retail chemists of Australia then pointed out how easily the particular commodities to which the honourable member for

Wentworth has referred, namely, aspirin and lysol, could be manufactured in Australia. It is very evident that the Germans do not care what steps we take so long as we keep their trade names alive. Many people are under the impression that aspirin and lysol are chemicals, whereas they are merely combinations of well-known trade commodities. When we talk about fighting the enemy trade, surely we ought to have sense enough to wipe out the names that the Germans have patented and applied to these particular combinations. If the British authorities do not care to coin names for these products, let us do it ourselves, so that people may know that these articles are not chemicals, but are merely combinations of well-known lines under special names.

On March 6, Mr. Kelly said that in his previous speech he said that the name of the licensee was Harry Woolf Nicholas. He had since received a letter from the licensee, in which he stated that his name was George Richard Rich Nicholas. In order to make himself clear to the House, he said that the article produced by the licensee did not bear upon the label the name George Richard Rich Nicholas, but was declared to be manufactured by Geo. R. Nicholas & Co. In the first place, the licence was granted to Shmith, Nicholas and Co., the partners being Harry Woolf Shmith, Alfred Michael Nicholas, and Joseph Wilhelm Broady. He was evidently confusing in his memory George Rich Nicholas with Harry Woolf Shmith. He asked the Minister for the Navy to promise to look into the present shareholders in this company, and especially to ascertain if George Arnold, or Arnoldt, who was previously the agent for aspirin, was directly or indirectly interested in the company.

Mr. Joseph Cook said he would make inquiries into the matter.

Mr. Kelly returned to the subject on March 13. He said:—

The importance of the matter lies, not in whether one manufactures locally or not, but in whether one manufactures locally under a name which is going to continue to profit Germany after the war. After the war is finished, the German-owned trade name of aspirin will revert to Germany. The German agents for aspirin actually fought and won the case in the Supreme Court of New South Wales, after the war was begun, against an infringement of their sole power to trade under that trade name; so that it does not matter whether we give a licence to this or that Australian manufacturer to manufacture aspirin, the Germans will step in after the war is over, and under the laws of the country prohibit the local manufacturer from continuing to manufacture the article locally made under the German trade name. Consequently, they will secure the trade good-will of that article which has been kept alive during the war by the very issue of the local licence. That is the real issue I raise in regard to this matter. The Government have recognised it. The Administration that immediately succeeded the Fisher Government agreed to prohibit the use of German trade names and descriptions throughout Australia, as

far as it could be achieved, and they have done so except in regard to these two articles, aspirin and lysol. I do not care whether the manufacturers are the most *bona fide* Australian manufacturers, of proved and undoubted integrity, they are manufacturing an article with a German-owned trade name attached to it.

Mr. Page: The public will not buy aspirin under any other name.

Mr. Kelly: They buy it under a dozen trade names. I buy it under other names. People go into a chemist's shop, and ask for aspirin, because it is best advertised. If they cannot get it, they ask what will do just as well, and they get the same drug under another name, and are satisfied. All this nonsense in regard to aspirin is the same as that which was talked in regard to the 4711 eau-de-cologne business. People had the idea that because an article was called 4711 it was in some way more magnificent than any other particular scent of that description, whereas it is merely the German trade organisation that makes the value of an article called by a German trade name. If we manufacture aspirin or any other article under a German-owned name, we are merely keeping alive the good-will of that German-owned name in Australia while the war is proceeding, in order that the German manufacturer may step in after the war is over, and be in exactly the position he occupied before the war began. That is what we have to kill. It is legitimate to kill German trade in Australia by preventing the use of German trade names while the war is on. I do not care what man has his ears tickled by what this or that manufacturer has to say. I say it is an insult to our people at the front that, while they are fighting the battles of Australia, we are keeping alive German interests and German trade in this community until the war is over. I ask the Minister for the Navy to look into the question, and give the House some explanation as to why, of all these German trade names, two have been exempted. I understand that the ownership of the trade name lysol is not so clearly established and unattackable as the ownership in the German trade name aspirin. What actually occurred in Sydney, where the right to the use of the name aspirin was tested, will make us realise what is likely to happen to the local manufacturers after the war is over. They will lose their right to the use of the name, and the Germans will simply step in and get the value that has accrued to the name while the war is proceeding. I again protest against this sort of thing, and I shall continue to protest until the principle which was adopted at my suggestion is put into universal application.

Mr. Austey on March 13 in the House of Representatives stated the case for Messrs. G. R. Nicholas & Co. He said:—

When the war broke out an enemy Trade Marks Bill was passed under which any man in this country who invented or developed anything in respect of which Germans had previously the exclusive rights was entitled to secure for himself, as an Australian, a trade mark. He was entitled to secure that trade mark although it had been held prior to the war by Germans,

Under that system two young Australians developed the product known as aspirin. They brought together two raw products—salicylic acid and acetic anhydride. These brought together produced acetic sal. That is the raw product, and when it is purified we have the medicinal qualities of aspirin. For three months these young fellows were endeavouring to get the Government Analyst to examine their product—to test the value of their discovery. They had, in truth, discovered the German method of producing aspirin. After much agitation, the Government Analyst examined their product, with the result that they got a certificate and the trade mark. Certain big interests in this country, however, sought to suppress them and to destroy their exclusive trade mark. Burroughs, Wellcome & Company, trading in England, were themselves using the word "Aspirin." They were not permitted, under our laws, to trade in that commodity, however, because "Aspirin" was not a true description of the article they were selling. These young fellows imported the raw materials of acetyl sal—salicylic acid and acetic anhydride—upon which there is a duty, whereas acetyl sal is allowed to come in free. The producers of aspirin in Australia imported these two constituents, and, bringing them together, produced acetic sal, which is free from all impurities. From it they obtained the medicinal qualities of aspirin. Against that product, however, a big agitation has been built up. The position to-day is that various firms are making accusations against these two young men. They are both Australians. The honorable member for Wentworth (Mr. Kelly) referred to them a few days ago. I do not accuse the honorable member of any improper motives. All that I say is that he has been put up with a brief. He only knows the case as it is presented to him, and he presents it to the House. He says that these men are in some way or other associated with Germans; that the name of one is Adolph and the name of the other is Wolff. These men simply answer that they are Australians who have discovered a product in respect of which a certificate has been issued to them by the Government Analyst. They have discovered something previously produced by Germans. They pay duty on the raw materials and are also compelled to pay a royalty to the Government on the manufactured article. They are quite prepared to have their credentials and their product examined, and to give a complete answer to the deliberate conspiracy to destroy them and the industry—a conspiracy to enable the wholesale chemists to sell an impure product. Wholesale chemists have been allowed from the beginning of this war to sell an impure product. They should have been prosecuted under the Pure Foods Act, but they have been able to use their influence.

Mr. Webster: That is a State Act.

Mr. Anstey: We have power to deal with them under a Commonwealth Statute. This, then, is the position: These men have developed an industry. We tax their raw materials, and we collect royalty on the sale of the commodity they produce. They have to pay a heavy duty

upon impure products imported into this country, whereas their raw products should be absolutely free so that they may develop and extend what is really a very important industry.

NINE QUESTIONS AND FOUR ANSWERS.

Mr. Kelly, on March 15, asked the Attorney-General, upon notice—

1. Is he aware that the *Digest of the New and More Important Features of the British Pharmacopocia*, 1914, gives authoritatively the ingredients of proprietary drugs sold under proprietary trade names?

2. Is he aware that the above authority declares "Aspirin" to be "acidum acetyl-salicylicum," and that it certifies that the said composition is manufactured under the names aspirin, acetosal, acetysal, salacatin, saletin, xaxa, and empirin?

3. Is he aware that before the war the British chemical manufacturing firm, Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., bought the right from the German proprietary to use in England the trade name "Aspirin"?

4. Is he aware that the said firm, after the declaration of war, patriotically discontinued the use of the German trade name?

5. Is he aware that well-established and reputable Australian chemical manufacturers are now manufacturing acidum acetyl-salicylicum and selling it under non-German names?

6. Is he aware that Nicholas and Company, who hold his license to use the German trade name, have in their public advertisements invoked the name of the Commonwealth Attorney-General, apparently to advance the sale of Nicholas "Aspirin"?

7. Does he desire the public to get the impression that his license is a guarantee that the product of Nicholas and Company is purer or more efficient than the products of the same drug by other Australian manufacturers?

8. Is he aware that after the war the ownership of the trade name "Aspirin" will revert to Germany, and that consequently the value of the trade kept alive during the war by the licensed use of the said trade name will again fall into German hands?

9. Will he revoke existing licenses for the use of German trade names during the war, and take steps to see that no more licenses of the kind are issued?

Mr. Hughes.—The answers to the honorable member's questions are as follow:—

1 to 6. I am not personally aware of all these matters, but will inquire into them.

7. I do not desire to convey the impression that the license is anything else than what it purports to be.

8. The Government propose to take such steps to prevent the result indicated.

9. The question of allowing the continuance of the use, under license, of this or any enemy trade mark is being now carefully considered.

Subsequently, a lengthy debate took place, the speakers being Messrs. Kelly, Anstey, and Fenton. The report of this occupies nine pages in *Federal Hansard*, No. 89, of 17th March.

On March 20, the "Age," Melbourne, published a letter from Messrs. Felton, Grimwade, and Co.,

in which the firm stated:—"We can prepare, and have prepared—and so can plenty of chemists—a quality of salacetic acid far superior to that sold here under licence as aspirin. But it cannot be called a manufacture, as it is nothing more nor less than a 'conversion' of two imported finished drugs into one that has been made fashionable by German enterprise. Unless a benefit be obtained by the right to sell it as aspirin, there is nothing to commend this procedure. The so-called 'raw materials' are as difficult to buy overseas as salacetic acid."

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER.

Messrs. Felton, Grimwade & Co. inform us that the following portions of the letter which they forwarded to the "Age" were not published:—

"We claim that the conversion of such imported drugs as 'Salol' or Salicylic Acid into Salacetic Acid (Aspirin) by the agency of imported Acetic Anhydride or imported Acetyl Chloride does not constitute a 'manufacture.' The claim that the quality of the locally made drug is superior even to the original German make is discounted by the fact that samples that do not answer the standard of the British Pharmacopœia can be 'doped' to do so. The addition of 1% to 2% Tartaric Acid to a sample of Salacetic Acid will abort the colorations that prevent many samples of the drug from passing the legal standard. The small addition would be almost impossible to detect by analysis. The action of the Federal Government in granting protection for the perpetuation of the German name is incomprehensible and no Firm, possessing the elements of patriotism would apply for benefit thereunder. The drug has a host of names free for all to use, and sanctioned by recognised authorities and usage. The perpetuation of the words 'Aspirin,' 'Lysol,' 'Pebeco,' 'Veronal,' 'Urotropine,' etc., is the maintenance of a strong German asset for redemption by our enemy when the war ends."

Reviews.

Pharmacopœia of the Melbourne Hospital for Sick Children, Melbourne. H. Hearne and Co., 1917. The tendency of all Hospital Pharmacopœias is to increase with each successive issue the number of formulæ for domestic use in the hospital concerned. The pharmacopœia under notice appears to provide formulæ for both internal and external treatment by medicaments for most ailments to which children are liable. This very completeness may act as a disadvantage to a student in his future career. In hospital work it is a great convenience to the prescriber to be able to write a single line for a mixture, etc., which may contain a number of ingredients, and the dispenser can keep in stock for ready dispensing those which are not liable to change and which are most commonly prescribed. But the student is very liable to accept the name of the formula as a remedy for the disease without troubling himself to refer to the ingredients or their doses.

In the Pharmacopœia under notice the doses of remedies for internal use are of the strength

suitable for children of one year unless otherwise stated, and the measure of the haustus, linctus, etc., is f 3j, or 3.55 mls. The formulæ of all the compound remedies appear to be very well devised, and the quantities are given in both the Imperial and metric systems. Useful information is given as regards the caloric value of foods, the heights and weights of male and female children at various periods of their life, and tables of metric weights and measures with their equivalents.

It would be advisable that this section be generally revised in a future issue. Such a statement as "m j or gr. j," "f 3j or 5j," "i 3 or 3j," made without qualification cannot be accepted. It would also seem somewhat superfluous to mention in a Children's Hospital Pharmacopœia the myrialitre of 10,000 litres or 2,199.76 gallons, and to give its symbol as Ml. thus confusing it with the mil, the symbol of which is also given in the B.P. as Ml, the one being ten million times the volume of the other.—S.P.

Census of New South Wales Fresh-water Algæ.—By G. I. Playfair, Honorary Curator of Freshwater Algæ, National Herbarium, Botanic Gardens, Sydney. Government Printer, Sydney, 1917.

This list is supplement No. 1 to "A Census of New South Wales Plants," by Maiden and Betche (1916). The pagination follows the sequence of that work, so that the first page of this supplement is 219. In the October issue of the Journal last year a review of that Census, which included vascular cryptogams, and phanerogams, was published. A second part, to include cellular cryptogams, was then promised. The publication now under review is the first instalment of that second part. Although Engler's classification was followed in the main census, it is departed from in this supplement. It is worthy of note that Mr. Playfair places the Schizomycetes (including micrococci, bacteria, bacilli, spirilla, spirochaeta and Vibriones) in the divisional group of Algal Fungi.

Any detailed criticism of the present work is not possible, but it may be mentioned that beyond the species enumerated by Mr. Playfair, only 82 had been collated and enumerated by others. The supplement now under notice catalogues no less than 593 species, with 496 of their varieties and forms. The references to monographs and other publications are very numerous. Altogether the present publication is the outcome of remarkably good and accurate work. It constitutes a worthy supplement to the main census, which has already been favourably reviewed in these columns.—S.P.

The Metric System for Druggists.—By D. Chas. O'Connor. Pp. 21. Spatula Publishing Co., Boston. Price, 50 cents. This little book, when properly studied, makes the metric system in relation to pharmacy as simple as dollars and cents. It was written especially to aid assistants in their efforts to pass State board examinations, but will also be found by proprietors and others to be a simple and practical treatise upon the subject.

New South Wales.

(From Our Sydney Correspondent.)

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting of this Board was held at the Board rooms, Richmond-terrace, Domain, Sydney, on March 13th.

Present.—Mr. F. P. J. Gray (President), in the chair; and Messrs. T. S. Loney, J. Duncan, E. E. C. Schofield, Capt. Wadsworth, and L. P. Williams.

Change of Minister.—A letter was received from the Treasury stating that the authority of the Governor-in-Council had been obtained to transfer the administration of the Pharmacy Act of 1897, and the Poisons Act of 1902, to the Minister of Public Health, and for such Minister to exercise the functions of the Colonial Treasurer under the Pharmacy Act. The notification of the change appeared in the "Government Gazette" of February 2nd.

Illegal Sale of Poisons.—A letter was received from the police at Murrumburrah stating that they had written evidence that a certain firm of storekeepers sold arsenic wrapped in brown paper parcels without the labels required by the Poisons Act. It was decided to send the case on for the Crown to prosecute.

Sheep Dip and Disinfectant.—A Sydney firm sent a sample tin of sheep dip and disinfectant as a specimen, and asked for directions regarding the labelling. The Board directed a reply to be sent to the effect that the label must comply with the requirements of the Poisons Act.

Proprietaries Containing Poison.—Messrs. J. Ireland Limited wrote asking the Board to supply them with a list of proprietary articles containing poisons. It was resolved to forward a schedule of poisons under the Poisons Act, and to inform the inquirers that no such list existed as they requested. Makers of proprietary articles frequently changed their formula, and hence the Board could not determine the composition of such articles. If any article sold by an unlicensed person contained poison, the seller was liable to prosecution. The statements on the label of the article were a guide, as the labels of all preparations containing poison must contain a statement to that effect.

Treasurer's Statement.—This showed the sum of £169 18s. 3d. to the credit of the Board. Accounts amounting to £54 10s. 8d. were passed for payment.

Final Examination.—This examination was held on February 26th to 28th. The examiners reported that 18 candidates presented themselves, and eight passed. The following are the names in order of merit:—Cecil James Fleck, Olga V. Reeves, Mervyn A. Barnes, Arthur Powell, Herbert J. Holmes, Herbert H. Kissick, Peter Rely, and Harry Clifford Rose (equal).

Registration under Pharmacy Act.—H. J. Holmes, of Woollahra; C. J. Fleck, of Guildford; Olga Reeves, of Hornsby; M. A. Barnes, of

Leichhardt; Arthur Powell, of Paddington; and H. H. Kissick, of Bondi, applied for registration under the Pharmacy Act. This was granted to them.

Pharmacists' Poisons Licenses.—Applications for this license were received from H. J. Holmes, C. J. Fleck, O. Reeves, M. A. Barnes, A. Powell, and H. H. Kissick, and license was granted.

Annual Poisons Licenses were granted to seven storekeepers. One application was refused on the grounds that there was a chemist in the neighbourhood.

In Lieu of Preliminary.—Applications were received from J. B. Donald, A. C. Frazer, and C. A. Smithurst, for acceptance of their pass in Intermediate State Examination in lieu of Preliminary. The applications were granted.

Registration of Indentures.—E. V. Campbell, to Chas. Dove, of Inverell, term 3 years; M. A. O'Beinie, to J. L. Townley, of Sydney, term 3 years. Granted.

Prosecutions Under Poisons Act.—A letter was received from the Crown Law Office giving particulars of prosecutions under the Poisons Act as the result of information laid by the Board's Inspector. Mr. Gray said he thought the Board ought to congratulate Mr. Miller on his splendid work in bringing so many offenders to book. It showed what could be done when the Board had funds at its disposal to send out an inspector. The Registrar said that the expenses would be covered by the fines, etc.

Amended Poisons Bill.—Mr. Gray said that whenever a new Ministry came into power they made it a rule to approach them asking that the Poisons Act be amended. They should approach the Nationalists on this matter. It had been long promised that this Act should be amended. It was resolved that a committee deal with this matter in conjunction with the President.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting of Council was held on February 21st. The President, Captain A. Wadsworth, occupied the chair, with Messrs. Short, Gray, Goldrick, Rogers, Schofield, Penrose, Dixon, and Williams. An apology was received from Mr. T. S. Loney.

New Councillor.—The President welcomed Mr. T. M. J. Goldrick on the occasion of his taking his seat on the Council for the first time. He was sure that the new Councillor would prove an acquisition to their ranks. Mr. Goldrick briefly thanked the President for his welcome.

The Treasurer's Statement showed the sum of £1011 19s. 3d. to the credit of the Society, with £14 in the Benevolent Fund. Accounts amounting to £36 1s. 10d. were passed for payment.

Annual Meeting.—The date was fixed for 28th March. The President, Vice-President, and Treasurer were appointed a committee to draw up Annual Report and Balance-sheet.

Donation to Museum.—A case of specimens from Messrs. T. and H. Smith Ltd. was received from Mr. A. McKenzie, of the Australian Drug Co., and it was resolved to convey the sincere thanks of the Society to the donors and to Mr. McKenzie for his kind services in the matter.

New Members.—Applications were received from the following pharmacists:—H. R. Harrison, of Armidale, D. H. Frazer, of Sydney, W. McArthur Best, of Burwood. A ballot was taken, and they were declared elected. Applications for diploma were received from Messrs. T. Pidcock and H. R. Harrison, and granted.

Opium Regulations Returns.—In response to a circular issued by the Society to the members, 110 replies were received.

Nominations for Council.—The following nominations were received:—Mr. P. J. Bailey, Newtown, proposed by Mr. G. Campbell; Mr. T. H. Dick, Strathfield, by Mr. C. F. Webster; Mr. F. M. J. Goldrick, Sydney, by Mr. A. Rogers; Mr. S. V. Penrose, Newcastle, by Mr. I. Spragg; Mr. E. E. C. Schofield, Woollahra, by Mr. R. A. S. Martin; Captain A. Wadsworth, North Sydney, by Mr. L. P. Williams; Mr. J. K. Wilson, Burwood, by Mr. F. W. Emert.

Auditors Nominated.—Messrs. G. F. Goodwin and L. A. Gray were nominated.

Arrears in Subscription.—The Secretary reported that there were two irregularities in the nominations. Mr. E. E. C. Schofield, who had been nominated, had not paid his subscription for the ensuing year on the date required by the by-laws, viz., February 14th, and Mr. G. Campbell, who had nominated Mr. P. J. Bailey, had not paid his subscription on the date named. It was proposed by Mr. Penrose, and seconded by Mr. Rogers, that the nominations of Messrs. Schofield and Bailey be declared informal. Mr. Schofield said that the Secretary had failed in his duty in not informing him that his subscription was in arrears, and thus giving him an opportunity of correcting the oversight. The Secretary said that he forwarded the nomination paper to Mr. Schofield a fortnight before the date of the closing of the nominations, together with all information regarding the same, yet Mr. Schofield had not posted his nomination until the last day for the receipt of the same.

On the afternoon of that day the Pharmacy Board room was occupied by the Medical Board, and hence the Secretary was obliged to be absent from the office. If he had received Mr. Schofield's nomination in time to warn him he would have done so, but when the nomination arrived the time had expired for the payment of the subscription. He did not think that he could be justly blamed for any negligence in the matter. A motion was carried declaring the nominations invalid. The meeting adjourned.

Recruiting Meeting.

A recruiting meeting was held in the courtyard of Elliott Brothers Limited on March 2nd, at 12.30 p.m. The firm allowed their employees half an hour extra lunch time to attend this

gathering. From a convenient platform, the speakers addressed the gathering of several hundred employees. The directors of the company were present, and Dr. Elliott presided, and briefly stated the objects of the gathering. He assured those present that the recruiting movement had the entire and whole-hearted support of the directors, who had assured the employees of their desire by making up the difference in the pay so that their employees should be at no loss so far as wages were concerned. The speakers were Mr. Buchanan, Sergt. Devlin, and Mr. K. Murray, the two latter being returned soldiers, who eloquently appealed for recruits. The need was great, and the shortage of men was getting very serious. Mr. Murray was especially urgent in his appeal. The response was poor. The fact is that the cream of the men have all enlisted, and those who remain have good reasons for not enlisting. Some of the most likely-looking men have been rejected. When you take away from the present staff the men who are too old or too young, the men who have been rejected and those who are physically unfit, the men whose wives will not let them go, and the men who are the remaining sons, with numerous relatives at the front in some cases, well, you could count the remainder on the fingers of one hand. Seventy men have enlisted from the employ of this firm. All send very encouraging reports, two have been killed, one granted a commission for meritorious services, several have been wounded, and returned to the trenches after recovery in England. The places of the absent men have been filled by men who are physically unfit, or have been rejected, or who are over the age of military service, or by a returned soldier. If a fit man applies to Elliott Brothers for employment, he is asked, "How is it that you have not enlisted?"

Prosecutions Under the Poisons Act.

At the March meeting of the Pharmacy Board a letter was received from the Crown Law Office giving particulars of prosecutions for infringement of the Poisons Act, which had recently resulted from the visit of the inspector appointed by the Board to visit the northern districts of the State, and report upon cases of infringement of the law. Many of the cases were very glaring ones, and an opinion seems to have got abroad that the Act was a dead letter, and might be broken with impunity. This has been proved not to be the case. The only reason why prosecutions have not taken place earlier has been that the Board had not funds at its disposal to properly enforce the law. As soon as money was available to pay the expenses of an inspector under the Act, steps were taken to bring offenders to book.

The following is the list of prosecutions:—

Maitland Police Court, on February 26th, before Mr. Gale, S.M., Annie Head was fined 10s., with 5s. costs, and one guinea witnesses' expenses, with one guinea professional costs. Rosina Lambie, was fined 10s., with 4s. costs, and one guinea professional costs and one guinea witnesses' expenses. Ping War (two offences) was fined 30s., with 10s. costs of court and two

guineas professional costs and two guineas witnesses' costs.

Newcastle Police Court, on February 27th, before Mr. Adrian, S.M. The following were fined 10s., with 5s. and 2s. 6d. costs (17s. 6d. in all):—J. H. Philpotts, W. Armour, J. A. Harrison (Marcus Clarke), J. H. Phillips, W. D. Miller, A. E. Taylor, B. M. O'Beirne. In a case of W. J. Lyne, the summons was withdrawn, as he had ceased to be interested in the business. In the case of F. C. Wolff, a fresh summons would be issued owing to the wrong date being on the original summons.

Singleton Police Court, on March 1st, before Mr. Alhutt. The following were fined 20s., with 12s. costs, for two offences:—A. Brady, A. I. Parsons, and E. J. Head. The following were fined 10s., with 6s. costs:—W. A. Miner, R. Tullock, E. Gladwin, C. Scott, H. Burns, and C. E. Kenberg.

At Morpeth Police Court, before Mr. Gale, S.M., C. W. Wade was prosecuted on two charges, and fined 15s., with 8s. costs, and 13s. 4d. witnesses' expenses. W. Walsh was fined 10s., with 4s. costs, and 6s. 8d. witnesses' expenses.

Cases still pending are eight cases at Cessnock, one case at Kurri Kurri, and two cases at Weston.

Among the substances sold were Fellows Syrup, Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy, Infants' Preservative, Sheep Dip, Church's White Pine and Tar, Kay's Compound Phenol, Sercisol, Aseptol, and Cooper's Cough Cure.

In one case the lawyer for accused disputed the reception of the certificate of the Government Analyst as evidence. This is provided for by regulation under the Act. The lawyer disputed the legality of the regulation, and three weeks were allowed the accused to consult with counsel with a view to entering an appeal on these grounds.

The regulation under the Act was gazetted on April 2nd, 1902.

At the last meeting of the Pharmacy Board, the list of cases was read, and the inspector was congratulated by the President of the Board on the good work done by him during his recent visit to the north. Mr. Gray said that this work would have been carried on in former years, but no funds had hitherto been available. It simply showed what could be done in enforcing the law when proper provision was made for properly carrying on the work of the Board. Offenders had hitherto escaped prosecution, because the Board could not, and the police would not, undertake the work of obtaining evidence against offenders.

It is expected that when an amended Pharmacy Act is passed, provision will be made whereby the Pharmacy Board will not be hampered in its work for lack of funds. The revenue obtained from an annual license fee of small amount will provide the funds for carrying on the work of the Board in an efficient manner.

Poisoning Cases.

Disinfectant.—A woman was found at her residence, Short-street, Newtown, suffering from poisoning with a bottle of disinfectant in the room on March 13th. She was removed to Prince Alfred Hospital in a dying condition.

Cyanide.—Walter George Pye, living at Gainford Lodge, North Sydney, was found dead in his room on the evening of March 12th. He appeared to be in his usual health during the day, but was found unconscious in his room in the evening. Dr. Throsby was called in, and pronounced life extinct. The police found a glass which had contained a solution of cyanide on the dressing-table, together with a small quantity of the poison.

Strychnia.—Alfred Ashley, residing at Salisbury-street, Waverley, age 68, and employed as a gardener, went to a Waverley chemist's shop and purchased some strychnia, which he said that he wanted to destroy some ants. Subsequently he went to a neighbouring hotel, called for some beer, was seen to put something in the beer before drinking it, and was found shortly afterwards dead in a neighbouring paddock. The man was a well-known and respectable man, and the chemist had no reason to suspect that he wanted the poison for any other purpose than the one stated. The Parramatta district coroner held an enquiry into the cause of death of a man named Shannon found dead at Westmead. Deceased was in a shocking condition through syphilis, and a bottle containing strychnia was found by his side. Dr. Bowman, of Parramatta, said that the man was a danger and a menace to the community, and might have been the cause of spreading the disease even to any person drinking from the same vessel as he had used. A verdict of suicide was returned.

Hospital Accommodation.

Sydney Hospital complains that the institution is not nearly large enough to deal with cases that are continually being brought in for treatment. When an accident happened at a picture show in Sydney, and twelve boys were brought in to be treated in the Casualty Ward, the accommodation proved quite inadequate. There is a tendency to make Sydney Hospital the principal casualty hospital of Sydney, but the accommodation must be considerably enlarged at an early date if this is to be the case. It has been urged that the enlargement of the Little Bay Hospital will relieve the Sydney Hospital of a portion of its work, and the buildings now in use for other cases can be used for emergency cases. To this the hospital authorities do not agree. Royal Prince Alfred Hospital has wards and furniture standing empty, as there are no funds available for bedding and other necessities before the wards can be fully equipped for work; meanwhile, patients are being turned away, and the State will not advance the money for the equipment of the wards. State money is tight at present in New South Wales.

Shocking Venereal Case.

At an inquest held on February 28, on the body of a swagman named Shannon, who committed suicide in Parramatta Park, Albury, by taking strychnine, Mr. Bowman stated that the body was profuse with secondary syphilitic rash. It was, the witness added, dangerous for a man in that state to be at large, as he could readily transfer the disease by means of a drinking utensil. A case like this pointed directly to the necessity of Government control of venereal disease.

SALVARSAN AND NEOSALVARSAN

EFFECTIVE SUBSTITUTES.

GALYL

GALYL is tetraoxydiphosphaminodarsenobenzene and has been discovered by Dr. Mouneyrat. It is found in the form of a clean yellow powder, liable to change when exposed to the air.

GALYL is as effective as SALVARSAN or NEOSALVARSAN on Spirochaetes and Trypanosomes and free from the neurotropic and congestive actions of these preparations.

For Intravenous Injections—

(1) **DILUTE**—GALYL is supplied in neutral glass ampoules containing the necessary dose of Sodium Carbonate. Sterile distilled water being only used for the dissolution.

(2) **CONCENTRATED**—A special outfit containing one dose GALYL, one ampoule sterilised solution, and one small filter is supplied.

DOSES: 0.20—0.25—0.30—0.35—0.40.

For Intramuscular Injections GALYL is supplied in oily emulsion.

DOSES: 0.20—0.30—0.40.

Ref., B.M.J., 14/3/14—12/9/14.

LANCET, 18/9/15.

HECTINE

HECTINE is Sodii Benzo-sulph-p-amino-phenyl arsonas.

HECTINE consists of colourless needles, very soluble in water, containing approximately 21 per cent of arsenic.

The preparation is put up in sterile ampoules for *Intramuscular Injections*—

AMPOULES A containing 10 cg. in 1 c.c.

AMPOULES B " 20 cg. in 1 c.c.

PILLS " 10 cg.

Ref., THE LANCET, 26/6/15—"Severe cases of intractable syphilis treated satisfactorily with Hectine."

HECTARCYRE

Mercurial salt of HECTINE, a combined arsenico-mercurial treatment of Syphilis, especially recommended after a course of Galyl.

The preparation is put up in sterile ampoules for *Intramuscular Injections*—

AMPOULES A containing

Hectine	-	10 cg.	
Hg.	-	1 cg.	in. 1 c.c.

AMPOULES B containing

Hectine	-	20 cg.	
Hg.	-	1½ cg.	in. 1 c.c.

PILLS containing

Hectine	-	10 cg.
Protoiod of Hg.	-	1 cg.
Opium Extract	-	1 cg.

Supplies may be obtained from:—

ELLIOTT BROTHERS, Sydney and Brisbane.

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Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on March 14.

Present—The President (Mr. C. E. Towl), in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Fleay, Gulliver, Jewkes, and Sayer.

Correspondence.—Letters Outwards, Nos. 145 to 248, were read and minuted.

The Vapo Cresolene Co., New York, wrote forwarding a set of new labels which the company had adopted as the outcome of the Board's suggestion. It was thought that these were a great improvement in appearance over the old labels, and the company agreed with the Board that they should contribute to the safety of the use of their preparation. It was resolved that a reply be sent thanking the Vapo Cresolene Co. for the courteous consideration shown to the Board's request.

Several pharmacists wrote asking whether such articles as poisoned wheat, toxa, and arsenate of lead came within the provisions of the Poisons Act, and whether they could be sold by unqualified persons. Replies were forwarded in each case stating that, under the Poisons Act, poisons for agricultural or horticultural use might be sold by anyone provided they were properly labelled, and the conditions as to containers, etc., were complied with.

Applications were received from three students, who had entered for the March examinations, applying to have their fees held over until the next examination. In each case a medical certificate was forwarded. It was resolved that the applications be granted.

Mr. G. R. Ritchie wrote asking how the marks were allotted in the Latin paper. A reply was forwarded stating that a fair proportion of marks was allowed for translation and parsing. Marks of appreciable value were also assigned to all the other questions, and the ratio of their supposed importance. In the December examination, questions 1 and 2 were worth 33 marks, 3, 4, 5 and 6, 33, and questions 7 and 8, 34.

Mr. D. A. Simpson, Loch, wrote asking whether a proprietary medicine containing a large percentage of alcohol could be sold by persons not holding a wine and spirit license. He was informed that a decision under the Licensing Act rendered it necessary to prove that the medicine was sold as a beverage before the sale could be interfered with.

Enrolment of Managers.—The following managers were enrolled under the regulations:—J. Hetherington, manager for H. M. Lemmon, South Yarra; W. L. Treen for the Elsternwick dispensary; P. J. Mulhall for the Canterbury dispensary.

Apprentices' Indentures Registered.—Gladys B. Leete to E. H. Leete, Malvern; Gwendoline E. Bucknall, to R. W. Wilkinson, Maryborough; James E. Chandler, to R. J. Harvie, Rutherglen; Nellie Stevens, to J. Barnes, Minyip; Martha Solley, to A. Stredwick, Kyneton; Veronica

Parer, to H. A. Lay, Windsor; Mary F. King, to F. Buckhurst, Melbourne; Frances Harvey, to F. Cheshire, Melbourne; George E. Desnoy, to W. H. Fleay, Ballarat. The apprenticeship indenture of Alan D. McMullin was transferred from Mr. G. P. King, Stawell, to Mr. C. E. Towl, Melbourne, as and from the 30th January, 1917.

Poisons Licenses Granted.—R. H. Evans, Rokewood; P. Dwan, Devenish; H. F. Richardson, Walpeup; W. M. James, Murrayville; W. J. Tonkin, Thoono and Goorambat.

Certificate of Identity.—A certificate of identity was granted to J. Farr Dentry, late of Geelong, but now of Ponsonby, New Zealand.

Police Reports.—Two cases of strychnine poisoning were reported by the police, both of which were fatal. In the first case, the poison had been in deceased's possession for a number of years, and was frequently used by him for the purpose of poisoning rabbits. In the second case, it was reported that the pharmacist had sold strychnine to an elderly man in a paper packet contrary to the Board's regulations, which required strychnine and certain other poisons to be sold only in a bottle rendered distinguishable by touch. It was resolved that the attention of the pharmacist referred to be drawn to this regulation.

The March Examinations.—The following reports were received from the examiners:—

Preliminary Examination (Latin, Arithmetic, English, Algebra, and Geometry), held at Melbourne, Ballarat, and Mildura:—Twenty-six candidates entered and the following passed in order of merit stated:—Albert J. Baker, Winifred McDermott, Nancy M. Jackson, Leila M. Wallder, Edie M. Vigar, Violet M. Hands, F. F. Brown, Thomas F. Jury, Lyndal F. Davis, Ernest Kennedy, C. R. Reeve. Eligible to take the subject indicated at a subsequent examination:—Latin—Leo P. Scott; Geometry—Marjory Pleasance, John Bell. Latin and Arithmetic—Ellen J. M. Perrett. Latin and Algebra—J. Craig Sim.

Final Qualifying Examination (Practical Pharmacy).—Seven candidates entered, and the following passed in the order of merit in which their names appear:—Ethel L. Morrison, Brydie L. Warner, Lillian Breem, A. V. Rushbrook. Eligible to take the subjects indicated at a subsequent examination:—Section I, Paper—G. W. Tait, Bertha Altson. Section III., Practical—Stanley W. Ponting.

The examiners' reports were received and adopted.

Prosecutions.—The Registrar reported a prosecution against a storekeeper at Ararat, against whom two charges were laid. In each case a fine of 10s., with 17s. costs, was imposed.

A sample of sheep-dip containing 14 per cent. of phenolic compounds was laid on the table. This had been purchased from an unqualified person, against whom it was resolved that proceedings should be instituted.

The Registrar was instructed to make inquiries regarding a further case of alleged infringement of the Poisons Act.

Medical Act—Part III.—Regulations.—The Chief Secretary wrote intimating that the conso-

lided "Pharmacy Regulations 1917" had been approved of by the Governor-in-Council, and had been duly gazetted.

The following regulation* had also been forwarded to the Governor-in-Council for approval:—

"Notwithstanding anything contained in Regulations 43 and 44, the Board may, in its absolute discretion, exempt any person from passing the Preliminary Examination who produces a certificate of having passed the Junior or Senior Public Examination, or some equivalent Examination of the Melbourne University, or of some other University recognised by the Board, provided that such certificate includes amongst the subjects which have been passed, one language and one branch of mathematics."

The attention of the Chief Secretary (Mr. McLeod) was drawn to the indiscriminate sale of headache powders containing acetanilide. These powders were being sold by grocers and hairdressers at 1d. each. Mr. McLeod was informed that the matter had been brought under the notice of the Chairman of the Board of Public Health, who replied that, in his opinion, it was not desirable that powders of this nature should be sold indiscriminately by unqualified persons. The Secretary of the British Medical Association (Victorian Branch) wrote stating that his Council was entirely in sympathy with the proposal that some restriction should be imposed upon the sale of potent drugs.

Dr. Plowman submitted a report regarding the packets of acetanilide powders above referred to. He pointed out that according to the directions on the label children under 14 were directed to take half an ounce. By inference, therefore, children who had attained their fourteenth birthday may take six grains of acetanilide in half an hour. Such a dosage was, in his opinion, distinctly dangerous. The administration of full and over-doses was associated with some risk, and though death might not take place, many untoward symptoms might be produced. He considered that the common sale of powders containing three grains of acetanilide was pernicious.

The attention of the Chief Secretary was also drawn to a quack remedy sold by a Melbourne firm as a "marvellous uric acid cure." The price charged for a half oz. bottle of this medicine was £1. The contents of the bottle had been submitted to Dr. Sidney Plowman for examination. He reported that he had been unable to find any alkaloid definite chemical principle or definite chemical substances in it. It appeared to be a weak alcoholic preparation of a drug or drugs containing volatile oil, resin, and a bitter principle such as cascarrilla. In his opinion, four drop doses, as directed, would have no remedial effect on rheumatism, or for the cure of uric acid. He considered the whole thing was a palpable and impudent fraud.

In bringing these matters under the notice of the Chief Secretary, the Board pointed out that under the present law it was impossible to prevent the class of business referred to, and it was respectfully suggested that these cases afforded further evidence of the ineffectiveness of the

Medical Act in stamping out quackery of this nature.

Cypher Prescriptions.—A pharmacist carrying on business in one of the suburbs of Melbourne forwarded to the Board a copy of a prescription signed by a medical practitioner, and presented to the writer of the letter, to be dispensed. The prescription was written in cypher. The chemist rang up the doctor, who told him that the medicine could only be made up by a certain firm of chemists in Melbourne. He was, therefore, submitted to the indignity in having to explain to his customer that he could not make up the prescription himself, but would have to send it to another chemist. He asked whether prescribing of this nature was allowed by law. When he received the prescription he was astonished to think that all the qualifications which he possessed were useless; that the British pharmacopoeia was regarded as a mere nothing, and that a new pharmacopoeia was invented by the prescriber. He thought it a positive humiliation that a chemist should be placed in such an awkward position by any medical man, and he suggested that an enlargement of the prescription be supplied to all chemists to frame and place in a conspicuous position on their premises, with the following words underneath:—

"Copy of prescription written by Dr. ——. The contents are not to be found in the British pharmacopoeia, and cannot be explained by any doctor except his accomplices."

The President stated that on receipt of this communication he instructed the Secretary to place the whole question of cypher prescriptions before the Council of the British Medical Association. This had been done, and he was now informed that the matter had been placed before the Ethical Committee of the B.M.A. Council for consideration.

Pharmaceutical Chemists and Matriculation.—In pursuance of the resolution carried at a previous meeting, reports were received from the various examiners outlining the scope of the examinations and the College curriculum. These were submitted and approved of, and the Secretary was instructed to bring the whole matter under the notice of the Schools Board through the medium of the Chief Secretary.

Exemptions from Preliminary Examination.—The following University certificates were accepted by the Board in lieu of the Preliminary Examination:—

Ethel Russel Varley.—Junior Public, Melbourne University (Algebra, Geometry, Arithmetic, French, German, English, Physics and Music), and Senior Public (Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Physics).

Mollie Nugent, Ararat.—Junior Public (Algebra, English, French, Music, Geography, History and Physiology), and Senior Public (English and Music).

Alma A. King, Essendon.—Junior Public (*English, Algebra, Arithmetic, *Latin, *Geography and History), and Senior Public (English and History).

Miss Skewes. Ballarat. — Junior Public (French, *English, Algebra, Geography, History, and Latin), and Senior Public (*English and History).

* Asterisk denotes distinction.

General Business.—The Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, and the Board adjourned.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday, March 7, at 10.30 a.m.

Present.—The President (Major Cossar), in the chair; and Messrs. Bailey, Champion, Francis, Gabriel, Kernot, Lee, Leete, Owen, Pickford, and Taylor. An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. Imes.

Correspondence.—From the Lecturer in Chemistry, suggesting that a platinum basin in the Society's possession might be sold and the proceeds devoted towards the purchase of certain apparatus which was required. It was resolved that the recommendation be adopted.

Mr. Samuel Baird, intimating that he was prepared to contribute half the cost of purchasing volumes 3, 4, and 5 of Thorpe's Industrial Chemistry. The Secretary stated that Mr. Baird had already presented volume 1 to the Society, and the Society had purchased volume 2. The remaining three volumes, which would cost £9 7s. 6d., were required to complete the set. It was resolved that Mr. Baird's generous offer be accepted with thanks.

The Tramway Board wrote stating that the request of the Council that the trams might stop near the College building had been considered, and a stopping place arranged, in accordance with the request.

The Returning Officer wrote notifying the election of Messrs. Gabriel, Leete, and Pickford, as members of the Council, and Messrs. Shackell and Woodward as auditors.

An interesting letter was received from Lieut. C. H. Simpson. It was resolved that a copy of this be forwarded to the "Herald" for publication as an aid to recruiting.

Mr. L. Zions wrote forwarding a copy of a combined time and pay sheet and wage book which was used by pharmacists under the New South Wales Arbitration Act. The cost of this was 1s. 6d. per book of 100 forms, each form lasting for 7 days. The forms were largely used in New South Wales and Queensland, and had also been adopted to a lesser extent in Victoria.

Election of New Members.—The following associate members were balloted for and elected:—Gordon S. Flude, 27 Jackson-street, Northcote; Wm. J. Leggett, 191 Moore-street, Moonee Ponds; Vincent F. Montgomery, 55 Manningtree-road, Hawthorn; Thomas H. Ryan, Beaver-street, Malvern East.

Special Evening Class.—The Secretary reported that 32 students had enrolled themselves for the special evening class. He asked for in-

structions as to whether the Council desired the class to be established, in view of a previous resolution, requiring a minimum of 40 students. There were three other students, who were likely to attend. This would bring the number up to 35. On the motion of Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Pickford, it was resolved that the class be formed.

Wages Board.—The sub-committee appointed at the previous meeting, consisting of Messrs. Lee and Pickford, submitted a report recommending the Council to convene a conference of the various pharmaceutical bodies interested to confer with representatives of the assistants to ascertain their views in regard to the appointment of a wages board, for persons employed in dispensing, compounding or selling drugs or medicines. The committee further recommended that when the proposed conference had been held, a deputation should wait upon the Minister and discuss the details of the proposed board, and ascertain his mind on the subject.

Mr. Pickford explained that the committee had gone very carefully into the question, and had had a conference with the Secretary for Labour (Mr. Murphy), and they had arrived at the conclusion that it was in the best interests of pharmacy that this matter should be dealt with in the manner recommended.

Mr. Lee said he was quite satisfied that the appointment of a wages board on the lines suggested would conduce to a better standard of service, and would make for more even trading.

The Secretary read correspondence which had been received from the other States, furnishing information as to the effect of wages boards from the employers' standpoint. In each case a conference between pharmacists and assistants was strongly recommended. A communication was also received from the Victorian Association of Chemists' Assistants, asking for the friendly co-operation of master pharmacists in a proposal which was to be placed before the Minister, asking for the appointment of a wages board. It was suggested that a small number of delegates from each side might meet in conference, and decide upon a reasonable log of claims. The matter was discussed at length in committee. Upon resuming, Mr. Bailey moved and Mr. Kernot seconded, that the report of the sub-committee be received and adopted. The motion was carried unanimously. It was resolved that the President and Messrs. Lee and Pickford be appointed to represent the Society at the proposed conference.

College Blazer.—A communication was received from Messrs. Lincoln, Stuart and Co., offering to supply College blazers in blue flannel (all wool indigo dyed serge), with cord edging and pocket badge, made to measure, cut and workmanship guaranteed, at a cost of 35s. each. The coats to be made to order, and the price to be the same both for men and women. The College badge would be worked on the top pocket in old gold, with the serpent in white. The Secretary said he had asked other firms to tender, but they had not been able to do so, owing to the difficulty in securing suitable material of good

quality. On the motion of Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Lee, it was resolved that Messrs. Lincoln, Stuart and Co.'s offer be accepted. The President stated that any member of the Society or student of the College desirous of obtaining a blazer would require to present an intimation from the Secretary that he was eligible to obtain it.

General Business.—It was resolved that a further supply of the College Syllabus for the current year be obtained from the printers.

Final arrangements were made for the annual meeting, to be held on March 14.

On the motion of Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Kernot, it was resolved to forward a letter of sympathy to Mr. A. Andrews, who recently lost his eldest son in France.

A contract was entered into with the printers for a further supply of paper for the Journal for the ensuing twelve months.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Owen) presented the monthly financial statement, accounts were passed for payment, and the Council adjourned.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

South Suburban Smoke Night.

The members of the South Suburban Chemists' Association held their annual smoke-night at the A.N.A. Hall, South Yarra, on February 20, when Mr. James Hislop presided over a representative gathering of pharmacists, numbering about fifty.

After the toast of the King had been honoured, Mr. J. W. Cochran proposed the toast of 'Kindred Associations and the Pharmaceutical Society.' He considered that the formation of the various associations greatly contributed to closer unity amongst pharmacists, and tended to promote good feeling amongst them. There were some pharmacists who said that association work was useless, but if they got behind the scenes and realised the amount of work which was done, which never saw the light of day, they would appreciate more fully the value they received. Only recently a very large amount of legislative work had been necessary in order to attain certain objects for the betterment of pharmacy. Much of this work passed unnoticed, and yet it had to be done, and men willing to do it had to be found. If they had no such body as the Pharmaceutical Society, they would soon be brought to realise the fact that their interests were not being looked after as they should. Many instances had been brought under his notice of the good work which the Society was doing. There never was a time when unity of thought and action was so necessary. He trusted that they would all remain loyal to their associations, and assist in every way in their power to further the work of organisation.

Mr. Buckhurst was asked to respond, on behalf of the kindred associations. He congratulated the South Suburban Association on securing such a large and representative attendance. A few years ago such a function would have been very poorly responded to. He believed that pharmacists, who were formerly a disunited body, were now beginning to understand the value of having

a common aim. So far as the P.D.L. was concerned, he felt that the influence of this organisation had not only benefited Victorian pharmacy, but had been a source of inspiration to pharmacists in all the States. If anyone had ventured to predict four years ago that pharmacists would have been brought together as they had been he would have been laughed to scorn. He remembered the first occasion on which he had addressed a body of pharmacists, and the feeling given expression to on that night was that they were being squeezed out of existence. He pointed out that although pharmacists were numerically small, potentially they had considerable influence. He based this argument on the fact that nearly every man and woman in the community had sufficient confidence in some pharmacist to entrust their lives in his hands. It only remained for the pharmacist to so educate the public that they would better appreciate the value of the pharmacist to the community. He referred to the influence which pharmacists had exerted in connection with the Venereal Diseases Act, which was held up for two or three days whilst members of Parliament voiced the feelings of pharmacists who had interviewed them. He took it as a great honour to have been associated with the P.D.L. since its inception. This organisation had now nearly 700 members, and it was becoming a powerful influence for good. He was not one of those who felt pessimistic at the outlook of pharmacy, nor did he think that they had too many associations. It was a noticeable fact that the membership of the Pharmaceutical Society showed a much larger increase since the P.D.L. was started. He had no hesitation in saying that pharmacists were better organised today than most other bodies, and he believed that the time was approaching when Parliament and the people would restore to pharmacists those rights which should have never been taken away from them. To him, it had always been an anomalous thing that whilst only a licensed victualler could sell spirituous liquors, any unqualified person could dabble in and trade in dangerous drugs and medicines. He justified this assertion on the grounds that it was in the best interests of the health of the nation that the sale of medicines should be entrusted to qualified men alone, and because pharmacists were entitled to a better measure of protection than they now received at the hands of the State. Therefore, he asked them to educate the public in this regard. He paid a tribute to the men associated with the South Suburban Association, and concluded by referring in appreciative terms to the keenness, enthusiasm, and activity of their pharmaceutical secretary, Mr. Butchers.

Mr. W. B. Reid, chairman of the North Melbourne and Essendon Section, said that his section was the second one to be formed. The South Suburban was the first. He was pleased to be able to co-operate with other associations, and do all in his power to advance the interests of pharmacists generally. He would like to see the possibility of curtailing Sunday hours seriously discussed. Too many hours were devoted to business on Sundays. (Applause.) Legitimate medical and surgical requirements were all

that should be considered. The sale of tooth-brushes, tooth-pastes, soaps, and perfumery on Sundays should not go on. All the necessary business could be done in much fewer hours. He suggested opening for an hour in the mornings only. (A Voice: No Sunday work at all.) In this or in any other movement for the furtherment of pharmacy, he would be pleased to co-operate with sister associations.

Mr. C. E. Towl responded on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society. He was proud to be a member of that organisation. Although not a member of the Council, he was able to appreciate the excellent work the members of the Council had done. They were all earnest men, intent on doing their utmost to help along the pharmaceutical cause. The Pharmaceutical Society was now celebrating its sixtieth birthday. It was the oldest society of its kind in the Commonwealth. The College of Pharmacy was a monument to the good work done in the early days. A good foundation had been laid, and it remained for the younger men to complete the superstructure. He wished the Council had more funds to equip its research laboratory, and encourage the younger men to undertake original work. There was a great field awaiting investigation. He instanced the Flora of Australia as a subject open for research work. The late Mr. Bosisto had done much valuable work in connection with the eucalyptus, and Mr. McAlpine had achieved notable success in his investigation of plant and vegetable pests, and such fruit diseases as Bitter Pit. It was one of the Council's duties to look after the educational side, and it performed those functions excellently. Whilst speaking on this subject, he would like to say that the Board of Pharmacy, of which he was a member, had framed a regulation accepting the University matriculation certificate as the equivalent of the preliminary examination, provided that such certificate embraced one language, and one branch of mathematics. This was a distinct advance. It was another step in the direction of the recognition of the pharmaceutical course by the University. An important step in this direction was now being taken by the Board which, if successful, would do much to place pharmacy on a proper professional footing. Notwithstanding its commercial side, pharmacy was a profession. Following an evolutionary development, surgery had advanced from an empirical study to a definite art, and medicine was also evolving on similar lines. Why not pharmacy also? They must progress or go back. He hoped that the near future would see affiliation with the University and a proper recognition of the pharmacist by the State and the community. (Applause.)

Mr. J. F. Hughes, president of the Metropolitan Chemists' Association, proposed the toast of the "South Suburban Chemists' Association." He said that he represented one of the younger men connected with pharmacy. He appreciated the work which was being done by their present leaders. But much more was required. There was still a big work to be done in connection with the maintenance of prices. As Mr. Buckhurst had said, they must educate the public as to the value of the trained pharmacist. They had been

too much disposed in the past to be diffident and retiring, and the public had taken them at their own valuation. The time had come for them to take a stand. He referred to the Sigma Co. as a recent development, deserving of encouragement. He hoped that company would develop into a valuable co-operative concern. It was founded on right principles. Its profits remained in Australia, and the pharmacist himself was also a gainer by assisting it along. In the past they had drifted into a period of stagnation. They had drifted into a backwash. It was only by supporting their organisations that they would retrieve their position. The South Suburban Association had done much excellent work, and he had great pleasure in asking them to drink to the health of its members, associating the toast with the names of the president (Mr. Hislop) and the hon. secretary (Mr. George).

Mr. E. H. Lecte responded. The South Suburban Association has been accorded considerable praise in years past, and it was greatly to their credit that the early pioneers of the association accomplished as much as they did at a time when pharmacists could hardly be described as civilised beings. Some of the older pharmacists looked back to the day when it was hardly safe to go into another man's pharmacy, especially if it was situated in his own district. There was a danger of getting into a backwash if they were not keen and alert. He thought the South Suburban Association was entitled to credit for throwing in its lot with the M.C.A. Some thought it would be overshadowed, but it still managed to maintain its individuality. The kindred associations were a tower of strength. The amount of work which lay before them was practically unlimited. He was glad to find new men coming forward and finding their feet. All this was to the advantage of pharmacy. They could not have too many enthusiastic workers. Association work was a stimulus to the individual pharmacist, and was a powerful aid to pharmacy throughout the State. (Applause.)

"Our Military Pharmacists at Home and Abroad" was a toast entrusted to Mr. J. C. Pickford, who referred to the progress which had been made during the past year or two. It was eight or nine years since the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society first took action, and obtained from Surgeon-General Williams a promise that all pharmacists joining the Citizen Forces would be entitled to the rank of lieutenant. For some reason or other, the order confirming this was allowed to drop out, so that when the war started pharmacists found that they had no locus standi at all, and a fresh start had to be made. After a great deal of work, the first commission to a pharmacist was given, and Lieut. W. D. Williams was appointed an officer in charge of the Base Depot of Medical Stores. Later on Lieut. Williams was promoted, and he is now senior pharmacist for Victoria, with the rank of captain. It was only twelve months ago that the Council of the Society selected Major Cossar as its pharmaceutical representative. At that time the post was thought to be a sinecure, but in Major Cossar's capable hands the position had become an important one. They were indebted

Mr. Surgeon-General Fetherston for sympathetic assistance. There were too many pharmacists to find positions for as dispensers, but he hoped that so far as those who had gone abroad were concerned, they would soon all receive commissions. Recently an important military conference was held, at which all the other States were represented. The conference achieved notable results. He thought that pharmacists in Australia had done more in this connection than in any part of the Empire. He congratulated Capt. Williams on his promotion, and concluded by hoping that before long there would be an honourable and lasting peace. (Applause.)

Capt. Williams, who was warmly received, responded. In an eloquent speech he referred to the need of recruits coming forward. He related instances of self-sacrificing efforts which had been made. So far as Major Cossar and himself were concerned, they were doing all they could for pharmacists. They were endeavouring to leave on record tabulated information which would prove the value of the recognition which had been given them. He had spent many hours after ordinary work was completed in compiling these records. It was a great pity the South African war left them so little to work on. As it happened, they had to lay out a fresh course entirely. So far as he was concerned, he had told the department that he would go away to-morrow as a staff-sergeant if they would let him. They needed every man. If those present could not go themselves, they should be active in other directions. He agreed that the need of a research laboratory was pressing, but more urgent still was the institution of a class to teach the junior men analytical work of such a kind as would enable them to take up this class of work in manufactures. He referred to the losses they had sustained in the death of Alick Chapman, Douglas Towl, Eric Crawford and others. These men had given their lives for their country. He thanked the Pharmaceutical Council for nominating him as senior pharmacist, and on behalf of the boys who were away, and who held the pride of place, he only desired to say that he was proud to know that at a social function of this kind they were not forgotten. (Applause.)

Mr. R. W. Maxwell, in moving a vote of thanks to the artists, said he was one of the older brigade, but, notwithstanding that, he was able to appreciate good work when he saw it. Wonderful progress had been made, and he, like Mr. Bickhurst, was optimistic regarding the future. He himself might not live to see it, but he believed a fuller recognition of pharmacy was coming in the near future. He urged every chemist to do something in connection with the war, either in Red Cross work, or acquiring a knowledge of first aid and nursing or helping in some direction. Regarding the artists, he thought they were deserving of thanks for coming forward and giving those present such an enjoyable evening. Items from the pharmaceutical brethren were always appreciated. The toast was honoured with enthusiasm, and was acknowledged briefly by Mr. Lee.

During the evening, an interesting musical programme was rendered, in which Messrs. F. Lee, O. Smith, F. Newman, T. E. Turner, and others took part.

SOUTH SUBURBAN SECTION.

Meeting of the South Suburban Chemists' Association held at the Star Hotel, Windsor, March 13th, 1917.

There were 13 members present. Mr. Hislop (President) in chair.

Accounts passed for payment.

Delegate's report received and discussed.

Retail Price of Antiphlogistine.—Agreed that retail prices be as follow:—Small, 3/-; medium, 4/-; large, 7/-.

Ven. Yusa Cream and Toilet Soap.—Agreed that members refuse to handle same until it is put on P.A.T.A. at a fair per cent. profit, and similarly any other new line. M.C.A. to be advised.

Antim sulph.—Members urged to adhere to Antim sulph. Slackness reported. Delegates to ask Central Committee what is being done re doctors and patent medicines.

Wages Board.—Matter discussed at length. Members were advised to see that they were properly represented and that correct wording used in framing definitions. At conclusion of discussion, motion passed that this Association endorse principle of Wages Board.

Sir O'Clock Closing.—Discussion postponed until next meeting.

J. F. GEORGE, Hon. Sec.

NORTHERN SECTION.

The monthly meeting of Northern Section, M.C.A., was held on Tuesday, March 13th. Mr. MacLennan, Sec. P.A.T.A., delivered an able address on the Aims and Benefits of the P.A.T.A., and was listened to and much appreciated by those members present. One name was handed in as a new P.A.T.A. member.

Mr. Friedman was welcomed as a new member. Mr. Leete will address our next meeting on April 17th, on the Advantages of Co-operation.

C. H. YELLAND,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

NORTH MELBOURNE AND ESSENDON SECTION.

The usual meeting of the North Melbourne and Essendon District Chemists' Association was held at North Melbourne on Tuesday, 13th March. There were present—Messrs. Reid (chair), Gardiner, Goode, Keays, Markham, Vale, Torrance, Prout, Richards, and the Hon. Sec. Before commencing the business of the evening, the President welcomed Mr. Prout, who had recently returned from overseas' service with the troops. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, and the correspondence dealt with, the meeting discussed the report of the year's progress of the P.A.T.A., and that of the delegates of the last meeting of the M.C.A. The President then read a letter from Mr. Jewkes, acknowledging the letter

of condolence from the Association, and it was agreed to record in the minutes the sympathy of the members with Mr. and Mrs. Jewkes in their recent bereavement and their sincere regret at the tragic termination of such a promising career. After the questions of the reduction in Sunday hours and the Wages Board had been discussed without finality being reached, the meeting terminated.

A. L. JONES, Hon. Sec.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The monthly meeting of the Central Committee was held at the College of Pharmacy, on March 20, and was attended by Messrs. Hughes (President), Jones, Keays, Newman, Young, Barker, Stevenson, McClelland, Attwood, and the Secretary (J. Garrick). An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. Laurance.

Reports were received from the different Sections, stating that they were favourably disposed towards the P.A.T.A. under its present constitution. From the North Suburban Section, stating that at their last meeting Mr. McLellan delivered an interesting and instructive address on the work of the P.A.T.A. From the City Section, intimating that they discountenanced the practice of purchasing medicine bottles from customers, as was done by the wholesale houses. This policy was endorsed. In reply to a question from the South Suburban Section, the Secretary stated that information was still being sought on the subject of doctors prescribing patent medicines. The meeting expressed confidence at the personnel of the conference, which is to meet shortly to discuss the proposed wages board for chemists.

Venereal Diseases Act.

Regulations under this Act have been prepared but not yet gazetted. This prevents many provisions in the Act from being enforced. It must not be supposed, however, that Section 5, which prohibits anyone but a medical practitioner treating venereal disease, is inoperative. This provision is specific, and does not require any regulation to put it into effect. Immediately the Act was approved by the Governor on December 28, 1916, Section 5 became operative so far as the prohibition of treatment is concerned. A pharmacist must not treat a venereal case, nor supply medicines for such purpose unless in prescription. It is the schedule of prohibited drugs which is not yet in force. The drugs included in the schedule may continue to be sold until the regulations are gazetted, provided, of course, they are not sold for the cure, alleviation or treatment of venereal disease.

Fungicides Act.

An Act to regulate the sale of fungicides, insecticides, vermin and weed destroyers was approved by the Governor-in-Council on 27th November, 1916. It requires all the articles above referred to to conform to a prescribed standard. Any person selling any articles included in the Act must sign and give to the purchaser an invoice or statement showing the trade description and the percentage of constituents required to be de-

clared by any regulation which may be made. This invoice is to have the effect of a warranty by the seller of the accuracy of all the matter stated therein. Packages require to be branded with the trade mark or trade description, and the statement of the percentages of such constituents as are required to be declared. It is an offence under the Act to fail without reasonable excuse to give, either before or as soon as possible after the delivery of the article, the invoice required by the Act, and to issue a false statement in respect of any fungicide, insecticide, vermin or weed destroyer, or to fail to affix the brand required to be affixed. Power is given to an inspector to enter upon any premises where any insecticide, etc., is supposed to be kept for sale. Regulations may be made prescribing the labels to be used, the kind and size of packages in which such articles may be sold. The Act seems rather involved. Apparently it will not be enforced until the regulations are gazetted.

Queensland.

Pharmacy Board of Queensland.

The Board met on February 8.

Present—Messrs. Chater, in the chair; Forbes, Clarke, Park, and the Registrar, Mr. J. W. Case. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. G. W. Ward, F. W. Simmonds, and G. J. Mackay.

Correspondence.—Mr. W. Saunders, Cairns, applied for a fresh diploma. He forwarded a declaration that the original diploma had been lost in 1910. Application granted.

Mr. J. F. Morris, Townsville, forwarded fee for diploma. Granted.

Mr. Wm. Padley, Hughenden, applied for registration as the holder of a certificate, Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Provisional registration granted for six months from February 8.

Messrs. J. L. Adams, Cooktown, and A. Symons, Brisbane, were notified in accordance with section 15 that they had not forwarded to the Board their correct addresses.

Alteration of Addresses.—The following alterations were noted in the Register:—Wm. Saunders, Cairns; Ethel M. Lyttle, Brunswick-street, Valley, Brisbane; J. W. Cowpe, St. George; Geo. Taylor, U.F.S. Dispensary, Ipswich; H. E. Barnes, Dungwen Station, Charleville; M. B. Barnard, Mitchell; T. P. Kelly, 250 George-street, Sydney; A. B. Menzies, Hall's Pharmacy, Ipswich; A. J. Brown, Brisbane.

Preliminary Examination.—R. J. Colledge, Brisbane, submitted a junior public certificate from the Queensland University in ten subjects, including the compulsory subjects of the preliminary examination, on the passing of which he asked to be exempted. Application granted.

Basil K. McMurray made a similar application, which was also granted.

Reginald M. Williams applied on similar grounds to be allowed to sit at the preliminary examination in Latin only. It was resolved that the application be granted on receipt of a letter from the University confirming the statements made in the application.

Apprentices' Indentures Transferred.—The indentures of E. P. J. Burke were transferred from T. P. Kelly to A. O. O'Reilly.

Pharmacy Act Infringement.—Two cases which were postponed from the last meeting were dealt with. The Registrar reported that in both cases the Act was now being complied with. It was resolved that no further action be taken at present.

Indenture Form.—The president and registrar were appointed to draw up a special form of indentures, and to submit a report to the Board at next meeting.

After routine business had been transacted, the Board adjourned.

The Board met on March 8.

Present.—Messrs. Chater (President), Forbes, Mackay and the Registrar. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. Simmons and Clarke. Leave of absence was granted to Mr. G. W. Ward owing to absence from the State.

Registrations.—Messrs. W. J. A. Maher, Toowoomba, and F. G. Skinner, Rockhampton, were registered and diplomas issued. Both applicants passed the Board's Final Examination. Mr. J. J. Kelleher also applied for a diploma, which was ordered to be issued.

Erasure from Register.—The Registrar-General notified the death of Mr. Benjamin Britain Smith on 20th February, 1917. As this name had been erased on December 8, 1910, under section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, the Registrar was directed to make a note of the death in the Register.

Alteration of Address.—A. Symons, from Brisbane to Rockhampton.

Indentures Registered.—R. G. Colledge to W. R. Colledge, Brisbane; Edith E. Smith to J. P. Davies, Brisbane; B. K. McMurray to H. I. C. Dent, Brisbane; G. D. W. Page to G. J. Page, Bundaberg; C. J. Duffin to A. C. De V. O'Reilly, Cairns; G. P. J. Burke transfer from W. Kelly to A. C. De V. O'Reilly, Cairns.

An indenture was submitted for registration which was irregular owing to it having been dated prior to the date of signing. Although the apprentice appeared to have passed the Junior Public Examination in the compulsory subjects, his application for exemption from the preliminary examination had not been before the Board previously. The indentures, therefore, could not be dated prior to the date of the meeting.

Preliminary Examination.—P. S. Reid presented junior public certificate in Latin, Arithmetic and English. It was resolved that he be exempted from these subjects in the preliminary

examination and allowed to present himself for Algebra and Euclid.

P. H. L. Smith and W. J. Austin applied to have their junior public certificates accepted. The applications were granted.

Ida A. Lee submitted certificate of having passed the junior public examination of the Sydney University in the compulsory subjects. Application for exemption granted.

Appointment of Typiste.—During the month Miss F. Farquharson, who had held the position for several years, resigned on account of ill-health. Miss I. Ferguson, who had been acting as temporary typiste, was appointed to the position.

Indenture Form.—The President and Registrar at the last meeting were deputed to draw up a form of indenture. They submitted their recommendations, which were adopted with slight alterations. The Registrar was instructed to consult the Board's solicitor and report at next meeting.

Legal Opinion.—Several points re the interpretation of the Act on the apprenticeship question not being too clear were submitted to counsel for opinion. This opinion was considered by the Board and adopted.

Apprenticeship in Hospital.—A matron of a public hospital wrote stating that one of the staff was a fully trained A.T.N.A. nurse who had matriculated in Sydney before commencing her course of training. The matron wished to know whether this nurse could be apprenticed to the dispenser at the hospital. The matter was referred to the solicitor for counsel's opinion, which was to the effect that such service of apprenticeship would not be service in accordance with the Pharmacy Act 1884.

The meeting then adjourned.

College of Pharmacy.

The College Committee met at Brisbane on February 17.

Present.—Messrs. A. B. Chater (chairman), G. W. Ward, G. J. Mackay, R. C. Park, J. P. Davies, J. W. Case, A. Forbes, R. C. Cowley (director), and the secretary, Mr. John W. Ward.

REPORT OF THE 1916 SESSION.

To the Chairman and Members of the College Committee.

I have the honour of laying before you my report for the session 1916.

The number of students who attended lectures was approximately the same as last year. The continuation of the war has kept back several who would have attended in the ordinary way, and it is highly probable that this unsatisfactory attendance will continue, and be even more pronounced next session.

As in former years, I have again to report that quite a large portion of the first term of the ses-

sion is taken up in getting students into the habit of studying, which would not be the case if they could be induced to read during their period of apprenticeship. It is difficult to see why it should require a different train of thought to make a competent assistant in a chemist's shop from that required by a student in the Pharmacy College.

Owing to the time required to acquire the studious habit, the proficiency reached by most of the students during the first half of the session was most disappointing. One man did not feel equal to facing the intermediate examination, which he ought to have passed without difficulty, had he applied himself zealously. The time during the second term was much too short to complete the course satisfactorily, owing to the lethargy complained of above.

Chemistry.—The students did not show any special progress in this subject. Few attempted to attain any skill in writing equations explanatory of their answers to questions.

Organic chemistry was a subject in which they were hopelessly deficient.

In Practical Chemistry, fair progress was made.

Botany.—The students acquired a fair knowledge of this subject.

Pharmacy.—Much might be written on students' initial deficiencies in their knowledge of this subject, which is surely the province of their early training. Much headway was, of course, made during the session in acquiring a proper understanding of the pharmacopœia, but I deplore the pronounced lack of any desire to acquire any practical knowledge beyond that which they considered was probably likely to come within the scope of the final examination, notwithstanding my repeated efforts to induce them to exert more energy. This is an example of the kind of inertia which was very pronounced throughout the session. It is very trying to be constantly driving students to work.

Dispensing.—I found that a series of lectures on manipulation at the beginning of the session were attended to with marked improvement in the skill shown in practice, and the habits of the students in the dispensing room were improved thereby. On the whole, I am pleased with the progress shown. Much is still left to the College, which should be taught during apprenticeship.

Materia Medica.—In all cases I am pleased to say that in this subject progress was satisfactory.

Summary.—I am far from satisfied with the attainments of the students during this session. It would be well if some effort was made to induce apprentices to prepare for their final examination from the time they enter into their contract of apprenticeship. Too much is left until students enter the College of Pharmacy. It is unfair to students and to the College for masters to evade the duties they owe to their apprentices. The desire to obtain a Diploma is a very laudable one, but it is regrettable to see students concentrating on examination rather than on education.

The best all-round student during the session was W. J. A. Maher, and it is to him that I recommend the Taylor College medal to be awarded.

R. C. COWLEY, Director.

The report was received and adopted.

Appointments.—The following appointments for 1917 were confirmed:—

Auditor.—Mr. J. C. Ward.

Director and Lecturer.—Mr. R. C. Cowley.

Secretary.—Mr. John W. Ward.

Time-Table and Fees.—It was resolved that the scale of fees remain the same as in 1916. Arrangements were made for the first term to commence on February 28, and continue until June 22. The second term commences on July 9, and terminates on October 19.

Death of Joseph Walter Case.

It is with regret that I have to report the death, from heart failure, of Mr. J. W. Case, on March 8th. Mr. Case had suffered from Bright's Disease for some time, and although he did not appear his usual self for some weeks back, the suddenness of his death came as a shock to his friends. He was at an emergency meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society on the evening but one before his death, and he attended an entertainment, along with a friend, on the evening preceding his death. Soon after his return home he had a seizure, which terminated fatally a few hours later.

Mr. Case was primarily a herbalist, but finding that unregistered practice led nowhere, he apprenticed himself to a chemist. By this time he had reached a mature age but by dint of concentration, in which respect he had always shown great aptitude, he succeeded in successfully negotiating all the pharmaceutical examinations. Passing of these did not greatly alter the character of his business, since, perhaps, he held greater stocks of herbal remedies than anyone in the State, but it led to a more intimate knowledge of their constitution, and, as would be expected, to more skilled methods of manipulating them.

He was, in the first place, a few years ago, a co-opted member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, but on each subsequent election he occupied a position in favour of the members which brought him close up to the top of the poil. His ability and power of concentration soon marked him for high position in the Council. An outlet for his legally inclined brain was found in drawing up the By-laws of the newly-incorporated society, on which he was highly complimented by the Council's Solicitor. His reports on National Health Insurance and his visits to Melbourne and Sydney in connection therewith brought him into touch with southern chemists, who were highly impressed with the stout little man from Queensland. It is to be regretted that his intimate knowledge of these matters, is now lost to the chemists of Australia.

On the retirement of Mr. G. J. Mackay from the presidency of the Society, the position vacated

was filled by Mr. Case. He continued in this office, with much advantage to the members, for three years, only retiring last August.

Mr. Case was also a director of Drysdale's Limited, a director of the Brisbane Fire Office, chairman of P.A.T.A. and of P.D.L.

He was keenly interested in music, and was a clever exponent of several musical instruments.

Mr. Case always remained of a simple-hearted, unaffected nature. He had a host of friends in many spheres of life, who will miss his pleasant humour and kindly smile.

The Health Department and Labelling Regulations.

The Health Department has notified the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society that they are prepared to allow chemists a period of six months to get rid of stocks which were labelled in accordance with the previous labelling regulations, but do not accord with those at present in operation. On the petition of the Council, they have also allowed the same period to get rid of stocks of citrate of magnesia and of sulphur and sarsaparilla salts at present held. They are not yet prepared to take action against the use of spurious names on proprietaries indicating they are made according to some fictitious person's formula, but they have an eye on these preparations.

A difficulty has arisen in connection with Sections 71, 72, and 73 of the Regulations, which led to calling a special meeting of the Council, when the president and secretary gave an explanation of the trouble. The matter is now sub judice, but will be reported on in due course. But for this unforeseen contingency, a circular letter embodying the recent correspondence on labelling between the Council and the Department would have been issued by the office. The secretary has made a statement that members must maintain patience until some finality is reached, when they will be communicated with direct.

Business in Queensland.

Since the present Parliament came into power it has vied with that of New South Wales in its wasteful ways. It has spent money lavishly in unproductive ventures, and has placed itself in competition with taxpayers. It is now coming to the end of its resources as far as available money is concerned. Speculation is dead. No one is prepared to launch out into fresh ventures. Unemployment is rife, and unemployed men cannot spend money. Difficulties are being predicted concerning the settlement of the sugar industrial strife, in which the Dickson award is maintained. The supineness of the Queensland Government is freely commented upon, and the settlement of the sugar difficulty, will, it is stated, produce unrest in other spheres of labour.

Meanwhile, trade is languishing. The season is good, fodder is plentiful, but the outlook for the future is bad. There is every evidence that a period of depression is approaching.

The chemist is perhaps not so badly off, at the moment, as many shopkeepers are, since the change in the season has brought along many of the usual complaints requiring his services.

There does not appear to be any actual shortage of assistants, neither does there seem to be any unemployed assistants floating round. There is every evidence of an invasion of the male monopoly of pharmacy in the near future. There are said to be quite a number of girls training in schools throughout the State for the Pharmacy Board's Preliminary or the University Junior as an entrance examination to pharmacy.

South Australia.

Strychnine Mistaken for Salt.

On February 18, two youths, Norman Elliott and R. Johnson, who live near Cowell, had a narrow escape from death by poisoning. They visited a farm at Carpa, about 14 miles distant, and finding nobody at home, proceeded to boil some eggs for their lunch. They found a perforated tin, which they thought contained salt, but in reality the powder was strychnine. As the supposed condiment did not prove palatable, luckily only a little was used. The lads became ill nevertheless, and they reached home in an exhausted condition. They were immediately driven to Dr. Bitzenmacher, and under his care recovered.

Poisoned after Eating Pears.

On February 22, the family of Mr. C. Schlien, consisting of a youth aged 20, a boy aged 10, and a girl aged 6, ate some pears given to them by a gardener. The pears were windfalls, and were infected by the codlin moth. The little girl, who was just recovering from whooping cough, died. The other two recovered. The fruit eaten had been sprayed once when the fruit had just formed. The doctor who attended the patients stated that there was continued vomiting, temperature of 102deg., tongue slightly coated, patients delirious, constantly throwing themselves on the bed, and pulseless. The sickness could not be traced to anything else the family had eaten. Details of the case were forwarded to the editor of the *Medical Journal of Australia*, whose comments were as follow:—"There is no evidence that the codlin moth can give rise to poisoning. Fruit affected by this moth is eaten frequently, and no symptoms have been known to follow its ingestion. From the few details available it appears that the poisoning was not ptomaine poisoning, since there were fever, delirium, and a chain of symptoms unassociated with the condition of collapse, which is characteristic of ptomaine poisoning. On the assumption that the onset of the symptoms was sudden in all three cases, and that the two older patients were in normal health within a short time of the first appearance of vomiting, the illness reminds us more of poisoning by alkaloids, such as atropine, than anything else. An infection is not excluded, and might have been conveyed by the medium of the fruit, or in some other way. The symptoms described are at times produced by the *bacillus en-*

teriditis, and by other members of the intestinal group of organisms. In the third place, the symptoms corresponded roughly to those met with under exceptional conditions in acute copper or arsenic poisoning. In the absence of further information, we cannot do more than hazard a guess that the condition was probably due to alkaloid poisoning, acquired independently of the pears eaten."

Retail Defence Association.

At the annual meeting of the Retail Chemists' Defence Association, Mr. R. E. Guenther was elected president, and Mr. M. C. Moore vice-president. For the position of treasurer, Mr. H. V. Moore was selected. Messrs. T. M. Young and P. V. Whitney continue as auditors. Capt. Fox gave notice of motion that he would move at the half-yearly meeting that in future the vice-president should become the president for the following year, and that the vice-president should be elected at the annual meeting. The hon. treasurer (Mr. Moore) read the annual financial statements. Receipts totalled £432 12s., which included subscriptions £46 14s. 6d., sale of material £253 10s. 9d., debentures £100, levy £31 10s., interest 17s., balance brought forward £30 8s. Expenditure amounted to £355 12s. 3d. Balance of assets over liabilities £109 6s. The membership now stands at 89. An increased business will be possible in future, according to the President's report, in consequence of the successful flotation of a debenture issue. Difficulty had been experienced in obtaining supplies for Sonia lines. A formal protest was made by the Association that the prices fixed by proclamation allowed insufficient profit. No redress was secured. Messrs. Porter, Patterson and Cowling were appointed to watch the arbitration proceedings, and satisfactory progress was made. Mr. Porter has resigned on account of pressure of business, and Mr. M. C. Moore appointed to the vacancy. The special levy made to meet the expenses has been fairly well responded to, but a scheme will have to be devised to deal with it, and will be submitted at an opportune time. A Bill dealing with the sale of opium was introduced, and passed the Lower House during the last session. Arrangements had been made to submit amendments which had been approved by the committee, but the Bill was thrown out of the Upper House. It may be revived during the coming session, and steps must be taken to deal with it.

The President thanked the committee for assistance in carrying on the business of the Association. It had given much valuable time and consideration to the questions arising in the Industrial Court proceedings, and a vast amount of extra work had been entailed. Members outside the committee could not know how much had been done. Their interests were being carefully watched. After nearly five years' service, Mr. Kirby was retiring from the committee. His advice on all matters had been sound and conscientious, and his presence would be missed.

Mr. A. B. Cowling, hon. secretary, was voted an honorarium of twenty guineas.

Western Australia.

Peculiar Poisoning Fatality.

Robert Edward Fielding, storekeeper, Summer-street, East Perth, was riding a bicycle on February 26 when he collided with another cyclist. A bottle of Lysol in his pocket broke, and the fluid ran over Fielding's thigh. Symptoms of poisoning developed, and Fielding was taken to the hospital, where he died. Only one other case is known here of death from this kind of poison externally applied. Fielding's death was hastened by incessant coughing, which followed his injury. He was a strong man, and organically sound. He leaves a widow and two children.

Tasmania.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on 15th February, 1917.

Present.—Messrs. M. Rushton, H. T. Gould, J. T. Weaver, T. James, and the Registrar.

Election of President.—Mr. M. Rushton was unanimously re-elected to the office of President, and thereupon took the chair.

Annual Election.—The Returning Officer (the President) formally declared that as no nominations had been received the retiring members, Messrs. J. T. Weaver and C. Eberhard, are re-elected.

Vacant Seat.—Resolved that this be filled by the appointment of Mr. W. B. Drake.

Time of Meeting.—Resolved that until otherwise decided the meetings be held every third Monday, at 7.45 p.m.

Annual Accounts.—These, which were duly audited, were presented and adopted.

Election of Auditor.—Mr. P. Facy was unanimously re-elected for the ensuing year.

Board of Examiners.—Resolved that the Examiners be re-elected for the ensuing year.

Examinations.—A letter was received from Mr. C. A. Clayton that in consequence of having undergone an operation he would be unable to sit for the special examination in March. Resolved therefore that the March examination be allowed to lapse.

Poisons Act.—Letters in connection with this matter were received from Messrs. C. Eberhard, J. Coombe, and the Registrar of the Victorian Board. The matter of the circular referred to in last minutes was left to the President to arrange.

Health Act.—Letters were received from the Registrar of the Victorian Board, Mr. Piper. Resolved that a letter be sent to the Chief Secretary asking for the Board to be consulted when regulations under the Act are being made, also that a letter be sent to the Hon. W. M. Williams thanking him for the efforts he made in the House to attain the objects of the Board.

Registration.—Miss G. M. Peterson's diplomas were tabled and approved and it was resolved that she be registered.

Papers Tabled.—Annual Report Pharmacy Board of Victoria, List of Registered Chemists, New South Wales.

Finance.—Accounts amounting to £5 3s. 4d. were passed for payment.

P. D. L.

The Board of Directors met at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on March 14, at 10 a.m.

Present.—Mr. F. Buckhurst (in the chair), and Messrs. Francis, Gulliver, Malyon (Ballarat), Mewkill (St. Arnaud), Rankin, Sayer (Bendigo), and White.

The President expressed his pleasure at seeing all the Directors present, especially the three representatives from the country districts.

Correspondence.—Mr. J. K. Wilson, Sydney, wrote congratulating Victorian pharmacists on the successful outcome of their work in connection with the Venereal Diseases Act, more especially on securing recognition of their right to be consulted and of their ability to make suggestions.

A member submitted a question as to whether a medical man could keep a shop for the sale of druggists' sundries, and do his own dispensing. The chairman said there was nothing to prevent this, but he did not think the B.M.A. regarded such a practice as ethical.

New South Wales branch, notifying investment of £100 in War Loan, out of revenue. It was stated that practically the whole of this amount had been earned in commissions on insurances.

Melbourne Fire Office, forwarding commission statement and cheque for £9 1s. 7d., in settlement of account.

Several members wrote, placing their insurances with the Melbourne Fire Office. In one case, a member was so grateful for legal assistance rendered in connection with a claim which was made for alleged damages, that he decided to place all his insurances through P.D.L.

Mr. H. D. B. Cox, Sydney, stating that he hoped to be able to devote more time to P.D.L. in New South Wales, now that he had disposed of one of his businesses.

Wellington Province Election.—The chairman reported what had been done in assisting the candidature of Mr. A. Bell, for the vacancy in the Legislative Council. He was glad to know that Mr. Bell had been returned head of the poll, and had instructed the secretary to convey the congratulations of the directors. He was satisfied that Mr. Bell would be of great help to them in the Legislative Council.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were balloted for and elected:—

New South Wales.

Brand, Arthur G., Lismore; Alexander, Joseph A., Coonamble; Whittle, Fredk. J. C., Murwillumbah; Geary, John J., Arncliffe; Lane, Victor A., Casino; Urquhart, George L., Grafton; Pedcock, Thos. E., Casino; Somerville, W. J., Ballina; Kiernan, Albert A., Sydney; Matthews, Jas. D., Murrumburrah; Glazier, Richard L., Wagga Wagga.

Victoria.

Perry, William B., Murrumbidgee.

Legal Opinions.—The following cases were submitted to the solicitor for opinion:—

A chemist had an arrangement with a private hospital, which had gone into liquidation. Under

this agreement he supplied medicines to the patients, and allowed the hospital 10 per cent. for collecting the accounts, the hospital accepting responsibility for all debts. He also supplied medicines to the hospital. The solicitor advised that he should send in separate proofs of debt to the liquidator, (1) for the house account, and (2) for the moneys collected. It would depend on the circumstances whether the liquidator must pay in full the moneys collected. Mr. Rankin said that, if the hospital acted as the chemist's agent, he thought the moneys collected would be held in trust, and must be a preferential debt.

The dispenser at a U.F.S. dispensary applied for his annual leave, which he was entitled to under the rules. He secured a suitable locum, who was approved of by the dispensary committee. He paid the locum £10 for two weeks, and applied to the committee for a refund of this. The request was refused. The dispenser wrote stating that it was a general custom to pay the locum's salary. He pointed out that he had not had one solitary holiday, including Sundays, throughout the whole year. The solicitor advised that the dispenser was entitled to annual leave, and that the dispensary was bound to pay for the locum tenens. He suggested that the committee should be sued for the amount. It was decided to bring the question of the non-granting of a weekly holiday under the notice of the Secretary for Labour.

Discounts to Dispensaries.—A member brought under notice the practice of the wholesale houses allowing dispensaries a special discount of 10 per cent. on their drug accounts. He had interviewed one wholesale house, and was informed that the reason for this was that the dispensaries were classed as charitable institutions. In his opinion, they were more than this, as they sold goods to their members for profit. He suggested that the matter might be brought under the notice of the wholesale houses, and that they might be asked not to give special concessions to dispensaries in cases where they carried on a trading business, and came into open competition with pharmacists. Mr. Gulliver said it was a question of bigger purchasing power. Mr. Rankin said that chemists could get bigger discounts if they bought in larger quantities. Mr. Sayer said that he had been informed that one dispensary did not buy in large parcels, yet it got the 10 per cent. discount from one wholesaler, after another one had refused it. He thought that the wholesalers might take some action if the matter was brought under their notice. The secretary was instructed to wait on the heads of the three wholesale firms and ascertain the reasons for the granting of special discounts.

Proposed Wages Board.—The chairman reported that he had gone fully into the Wages Board question, and had come to the conclusion that the master pharmacists should meet the assistants in friendly conference. He thought there was no reason to anticipate the submission of unreasonable claims by the assistants. In his opinion, the Wages Board system had come to stay; it was the policy of the State, and was much to be preferred to the Arbitration Court.

After discussion, it was resolved to appoint Messrs. Buckhurst, Gulliver and Rankin to represent the P.D.L. at a conference to be held with the assistants. It was also resolved that, provided the deliberations of such conference were deemed satisfactory, the directors would withdraw their opposition to the formation of a Wages Board.

A further resolution was carried that, in the opinion of the directors, the company's funds should not be used in the event of a Wages Board being blocked by the master pharmacists, and as a consequence thereof a plaint being brought before the Federal Arbitration Court. In carrying this resolution, the directors felt that the P.D.L. funds were raised for a specific purpose, and that it was not part of the company's function to expend large sums of money in connection with an expensive appeal to the Arbitration Court.

Finance.—The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Francis) submitted the monthly financial statement, showing credit balance of £61 16s. 6d. Accounts were passed for payment, and the meeting adjourned.

Legal.

Prosecutions Under Poisons Act.

At the Ararat police court, on February 14, before Mr. D. Berriman, P.M., Mr. C. E. Rees, acting for the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, proceeded against Wellesley Smith, who formerly carried on business in Ararat, charging him that on 1st November last he did—

(1) Sell a poison, to wit, a preparation known as Freeman's Chlorodyne, containing morphine in a bottle not having the name and address of the seller on it.

(2) Sell Steven's Ointment, containing salts of mercury in a box containing the same, not bearing the word "poison" and the name and address of the seller thereon.

Defendant did not appear, but was represented by counsel. Evidence having been given, the court fined the defendant 10s. on each charge. The prosecuting officer asked for 55s. 6d. costs, including 34s. railway fare. The P.M. said he would not saddle defendant with the expenses for travelling—it would be unfair to do so. He would allow 17s. costs in each case.

Pretending to be a Dispensing Chemist.

Important Decision by New South Wales Supreme Court.

On February 20, 1917, before the Full Court, consisting of the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Pring, and Mr. Justice Sly, an application was made to make absolute a rule nisi, by which Samuel Gee, an inspector appointed under the Pharmacy Act of 1897, was called upon to show cause why a prohibition should not issue to set aside an order of Mr. King, S.M., at Paddington, on November 9.

The appellant, Michael Joseph Farran, was convicted by the magistrate under section 17 of the Pharmacy Act with pretending to be a dispensing chemist, he not being a registered pharmacist or having a registered pharmacist in his employ. The evidence relied upon was that Farran dispensed a doctor's prescription for the respondent, for which he charged 2s. 6d. Mr. Armstrong, instructed by Mr. A. C. Roberts, appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Watt, instructed by the Crown Solicitor (Mr. J. V. Tillett), appeared for the respondent.

Counsel for the appellant contended that there was no evidence that Farran had pretended to be a dispensing chemist. He said that the word pretend in the Act meant "falsely" pretend, and there was no evidence that defendant made any false pretence.

Mr. Justice Pring: He did when he made up the prescription; he had no business to make it up.

Mr. Armstrong: If doing so the act is pretending to be a dispensing chemist, then the conviction ought to be upheld, but the Act says nothing of the kind, the Act does not say you shall not dispense. My point is "pretend" must necessarily mean "falsely pretend." The person who drafted the Act has not considered the effect of the drafting, for in the next section the word person includes every company, carrying on business as a dispensing chemist, etc., and if pretending means doing the act, then every company carrying on such a business must be hit. A company could not be a registered pharmacist, as there must be an examination. The appellant had the right to dispense medicines, but he must not pretend to be a registered chemist. If Farran was guilty, then Washington H. Soul and other companies were committing an offence. The Act did not forbid dispensing. It was the claiming of the title which constituted the offence.

The Chief Justice: Take the case of a man who is in the habit of dispensing medicine, what has he to do to commit an offence? What circumstances can be held to commit an offence?

Mr. Armstrong: If he puts up on the door "Pharmacist" that would be quite sufficient.

The Chief Justice: Supposing he put on the door "Dispensing Chemist"?

Mr. Armstrong: That would be quite sufficient.

The Chief Justice: What is the difference or distinction in substance between taking the title and doing the act?

Mr. Armstrong: It is not my trouble that the Act is badly drafted. If you take away any man's rights you must use very clear language.

The Chief Justice: When a penalty is imposed the word pretend means "put forward a thing which is not true by words or acts." How can he commit an offence if he is not a dispensing chemist? He acts as a dispensing chemist. He pretends to be one. He is asked to dispense a prescription and does it. How else can the offence be committed?

Mr. Armstrong: If a man is forbidden to act as a dispensing chemist, then I say such a meaning is absurd, because all the large businesses are carried on by persons who cannot do it. Every company is pretending to be such. What the Act seeks to hit is the taking of the title, not the doing of the act.

Mr. Justice Pring: I suppose anyone taking up that bottle would believe it came from a dispensing chemist.

The Chief Justice: How can an offence be committed if not by act?

Mr. Armstrong: When a person puts forward the claim to do a thing he cannot do. If a man were able to show he had good reason to think he was registered, he would not commit an offence.

Mr. Justice Sly: Pretending does not mean falsely pretending.

Mr. Watt, for the Crown, said before this Act was passed there was nothing to stop a man carrying on this business. The Act was passed to protect the public. If my friend is right, under section 17, the only people who may carry on the business safely are those who do not register, and any person can practice as a chemist. If the court looks at the section it is clear that the chief part is the use of the claim to be a registered pharmacist. What would be the meaning in an indictment of the words "not being a registered pharmacist"? Is it not clear it aims at preventing a person carrying on the business? The Act really means "pretends to be a registered pharmacist" or takes any title holding oneself out in such a way that you claim to be qualified. The intention of the Act is that the person who dispenses shall be registered.

The Chief Justice, in delivering judgment, said that the Act not only penalised persons who falsely described themselves as registered pharmacists, but it went further, and penalised persons who pretended to be dispensing druggists, chemists, etc. The Legislature must be taken to intend to penalise a person who held himself out as a dispensing chemist, without being on the Register of Pharmacists. Pretend or pretence need not imply the presence of deceit. True, a man who dispenses drugs habitually is a dispensing chemist if the word pretends suggests that the Legislature was oblivious of the nature of the act. On the facts, the magistrate could clearly conclude the appellant was holding himself out to be a dispensing chemist. It is suggested that that interpretation would bring all companies under the provision. Section 18 clearly implies "provided the business is in charge of a registered pharmacist" then, whether the proprietor is an individual or corporation, the Act says he is not transgressing. But it is useless to estimate the consequences of the decision. We are called upon to interpret the intention of the Act, and that argument must be passed over. The rule nisi in this case must be discharged.

Mr. Justice Pring and Mr. Justice Sly concurred.

Costs of the case and the hearing in Chambers were given against the appellant.

Personal & Business.

Properly authenticated paragraphs, preferably sent by the persons interested, are inserted under this heading

New South Wales.

Mr. E. E. Ford of Narrabri, had his pharmacy burnt down together with a number of other shops, on March 13th.

Mr. Fountain, formerly manager of the pharmacy of Mr. Webb, of Hornsby, has opened a new pharmacy at Eastwood.

Candidates for election for four seats on the Pharmaceutical Council are circularising the members soliciting their support.

Mr. S. Harris, who has bought Mr. Belcher's business, is well satisfied with his purchase. He considers the prospects excellent.

Mr. W. C. F. Glover, chemist, of Wellington, N.S.W., is on a visit to Sydney for a holiday, and is putting in a good time down the south coast.

Mr. E. G. Vincent, formerly of the pharmacy of Washington, Soul and Co., Pitt-street, has bought the pharmacy of Mr. H. B. Beard, of Cronulla.

Mr. Evans, of Cessnock, has been on a visit to Sydney for the good of his health. His favourite recreation during his stay has been surf bathing, from which he derived a lot of benefit.

Dr. Watson Harvey, of Manly, is leaving for a health trip to Europe. He received numerous presentations prior to his departure, some of the Manly pharmacists joined in honoring the departing doctor.

Mr. Percy Parkes, formerly pharmacist of New South Head Road, has been on service in Egypt and later in France. He is reported as now being in a London Hospital suffering from trench feet.

Mr. P. D. Belcher, pharmacist, of Walker-street, North Sydney, has enlisted in the Artillery. Prior to his opening in North Sydney Mr. Belcher was a traveller for Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. for 10 years.

Mr. E. E. C. Schofield, who unfortunately missed nomination for the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, retains his seat on the Pharmacy Board. There is a feeling in Sydney that it would be well if the Board and the Council were not made up of the same men.

Mr. Arthur Barnes, second son of Mr. C. H. Barnes, of the accountants' office of Elliott Brothers Limited, has joined the Artillery as a driver, and will leave shortly for the front. Mr. Barnes, junr., was prevented from joining earlier in consequence of an attack of appendicitis.

Mr. Jack Firth, second son of Mr. F. W. Firth, of Elliott Brothers Limited, has obtained an exhibition at Sydney University, and has entered the School of Science with a view of

proceeding to the degree D.Sc. He was rejected by the military authorities for military service.

Mr. Davies, who recently occupied Parkes' Pharmacy in Mullins-street, has removed his business to Leichardt, thus closing one of the oldest pharmacies in the Western suburbs. It is not improbable that some other pharmacist will re-open the shop as a chemist's shop before long.

Mr. A. T. Irvine, of Drummoyne, is paying a visit to his old friends in Hobart, where he was in business prior to his coming to Sydney. Mr. Irvin had a business at Zeehan, Tasmania, and was largely interested in mining properties in that district. Mr. Chas. Butchers induced him to come to Sydney and open at Drummoyne, where he has been very successful.

Death of Mr. Walter Denyer.—The death occurred last month of Mr. Walter Denyer, proprietor of the well-known firm of Denyer Bros., Sydney, surgical instrument makers, etc., and was well known in Victoria, where he travelled for many years throughout the State and on interstate trips before transferring his domicile to Sydney about fifteen or sixteen years ago. The late Mr. Walter Denyer and his late brother, Robert Denyer, commenced business about 27 years ago, and built up what is now the flourishing concern known as Denyer Bros., in Swanston-street. About sixteen years ago Mr. Walter Denyer opened a branch of the business in Sydney. The partnership existing between the brothers was dissolved about five years ago, and the Melbourne and Sydney businesses have since been separate concerns. The Sydney business attended to the N.S.W., Queensland, and New Zealand markets, and under our late member's guidance prospered greatly. Mr. Denyer was deservedly popular with his numerous clientele, by whom he will be greatly missed. His health had been very indifferent for some months, and the news of his death, though not unexpected, came as a great shock to his many friends in Victoria, who join with us in extending our sympathy to the bereaved widow and family.

Victoria.

Mr. D. Shaw is relieving **Mr. W. J. Williams**, of East Melbourne.

Mr. E. Potter has been relieving at the Elsternwick Dispensary.

Mr. S. Friedman has purchased the business of **Mr. J. Barker**, Fitzroy.

Mr. W. O. Straede has accepted a position at the Melbourne Dispensary.

Mr. K. T. Galbraith is relieving at **Mr. Kendall's** Pharmacy at Rainbow.

Mr. E. T. P. Davis has been relieving **Mr. A. W. McGibbony**, of Eaglehawk.

Mr. H. L. Hastings has purchased the business of **Mr. Will Sharland**, Stawell.

Mr. Southey, lately with **Mr. W. G. Ross**, is now with **Mr. T. R. Jones**, Bendigo.

Miss Lilian Broom is relieving **Miss Francis** at the Women's Hospital for two weeks.

Mr. E. C. Davies has taken a permanent position with **Mr. S. H. Blake**, Flinders-street.

Mr. L. Eason, of Tatura, has disposed of his business to **Mr. A. G. Finlayson**, late of Ballarat.

Mr. Will Sharland, late of Stawell, is relieving **Mr. B. J. Franklin**, Trafalgar, for three weeks.

Mr. P. McIntyre is at present in charge of the pharmacy of the late **Mr. Lindsay Knight**, of Brighton.

Mr. A. L. McNeel has been relieving **Mr. C. H. Yelland**, and is now with **Mr. C. T. Loughnan**, Clifton Hill.

Mr. W. T. Pinches has been relieving **Mr. L. Knight**, Brighton. He afterwards went to **Mr. A. W. Vale**, Kensington.

Mr. J. Hetherington has been relieving **Mr. Ewen Bisset**, Kew, and is now at **Mr. H. N. Lemmon's** Pharmacy, South Yarra.

Mr. J. R. Blennerhassett, assistant lately for **Mr. T. R. Jones**, of Bendigo, has purchased the business of **Mr. H. T. Gregerson**, Benalla.

Alexander Nicholson, chemist, Albert Park, who died on 18th October last, left personal estate valued at £1421 to his relations and friends.

Mr. G. W. Ward, pharmacist, Brisbane, passed through Melbourne during the month on his return from a holiday visit to Tasmania.

Mr. T. M. Young, Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of South Australia, paid a short visit to Melbourne at the end of February on official business.

Mr. F. G. Chamberlain has been relieving **Mr. J. Llewellyn**, of Alexandra, and goes on to **Mr. J. H. Gould**, of Moonee Ponds, for two weeks in April.

Mr. Charles E. Towl has been appointed by the Governor-in-Council, President of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria for 12 months from 14th February, 1917.

Mr. Edward Hughes, son of the late **Mr. A. E. Hughes**, North Melbourne, was very successful at the recent Junior Public Examination of the Melbourne University, gaining distinction in six subjects.

Mr. Lindsay Knight, chemist, of Bay-street, Brighton, died on March 16, after a short and painful illness. Mr. Knight had been over 20 years in business in Brighton. He leaves a widow and two sons. He purchased the business from **Mr. C. E. Towl**. Mr. Knight was a British pharmacist. He was registered in Victoria in 1883.

South Australia.

Mr. T. M. Young, registrar of the Pharmacy Board, paid a visit to Melbourne to see his father, during the month.

The Arbitration Court decision has not yet been announced. Pharmacists will be glad when the court announces its award.

Mr. E. F. Gryst, Exeter, has been on the sick list. He left about the middle of February on a trip to Melbourne and Sydney, accompanied by his wife.

Port Adelaide Friendly Societies' Dispensary has decided to purchase a property in one of the best positions in Port Adelaide to celebrate the fifth anniversary. A sum of £2500 has been allocated for this purpose. The membership now consists of 12 societies, 760 single, 1052 family, and 498 juvenile members.

Queensland.

Chemists' Shops Closed.

Mr. F. J. Drew has closed his business in Chinchilla.

Mr. E. G. Page has closed his business in Queen-street, Brisbane. The stock and fixtures have been removed.

Change of Proprietorship.

Mr. T. H. Johnston, of Allora, has sold his business to Mr. T. G. Johnston, who was formerly in business in Chinchilla.

Mr. E. P. Evans, formerly of Murgon, lately of H.M. Australian Forces, has opened a pharmacy at Manly, near Brisbane.

Movements of Assistants.

Mr. O'Neil, lately with the B.A.F.S. Dispensary, has accepted the management of Mr. A. E. Dimmock's pharmacy, Navango.

Mr. T. H. Johnston, late of Allora, is now in Sydney.

Mr. F. J. Drew, formerly of Chinchilla, is now with Messrs. McGuffie and Co.

Chemists on Holiday.

Mr. G. W. Ward is visiting Tasmania, on a motor tour.

Mr. T. Hood, of Bundaberg, is visiting Melbourne.

Mr. T. Gaydon, of Childers, has returned home from a visit to Brisbane.

Mr. W. Green, of Toowoomba, has been holidaying at the Tweed.

Mr. C. S. Spiers, of Beaudesert, is finding relaxation in the Brisbane district.

Food & Drugs.

A Doctor's Attack on Secret Remedies.

Dr. J. F. Merrillees, writing to the *Brisbane Daily Mail*, on February 12, says:—"One can have no possible objection to reputable proprietaries or to simple remedies being exploited, nor to the patenting or registering of any alleged new discovery. But, in my opinion, the unrestricted sale of all sorts of poisons for all sorts of strange and incurable diseases is provocative of more misery and suffering than alcohol. For one case due to alcohol, a doctor will see ten cases of incurable illness due to the constant swallowing of secret poisons under high sounding names, more especially in young women.

"Drug-taking is a far worse habit than alcohol, since it carries no moral shame with it. The man who would scorn to touch 'drink' will

swallow and recommend to others, opium, arsenic, aloes, cocaine, ergot, strychnine, mercury, phosphorus, wood spirit, cayenne, iodine, bromine, chloroform, henbane, deadly nightshade, gin, condemned wine, sulphuric and nitric acids, and hosts of others without a guarantee on the label as to the contents.

"Many of these preparations are purely and simply stimulants to sexuality, as well as the other organs for which they are sold as cures. It is a curious thing that in the universal search for a stimulant, when alcohol is tabooed, secret medicines fill the gap. And the habit of taking drugs has made more fortunes than the habit of taking alcohol.

"Billjim, in the backblocks, at one time used to be content to take a dose of salts or castor oil, or senna tea, or sweet spirits of nitre when he felt sick. Or his wife applied to the painful spot a poultice, made of anything from linseed to a turnip. Or the part was rubbed with turpentine or kerosene, or vinegar. Baby usually got Gregory's powder or aniseed, or liquorice powder, or magnesia. And the patients usually got well. If they did not, it was concluded that there was something serious the matter, and medical advice was sought at the first opportunity. But that is all altered now. With the help of a pamphlet posted to him, or shoved under his door, he at once diagnoses all sorts of diseases, treats them with the remedy prescribed, and often enough lands into a hospital at the point of death from typhoid or pneumonia, or consumption, or diabetes, or Bright's disease and dropsy, or heart disease, or any other old thing which gives man a passport to Heaven.

"The sale of secret medicines in no way affects the incomes of medical men, and very little more than that of the chemist. But no man in practice who is acquainted with the terrible results which often follow the use of powerful medicines and poisons by people ignorant of their action, and gulled by their testimonials and cures, nay, even ignorant of their own complaint, can but feel that a mistake has been made in annulling the regulations. It seems to give point to the accusation that the Council is more concerned with the protection of vested interests in property in its political relations, than the physical and moral well-being of the individual. The one thing has rights to State protection; the other hasn't. It is the apotheosis of bumble-dom!

The "Sargol" Case—Appeal Successful.

On March 13th Arthur William Boynton appealed against the decision of Mr. T. H. Wilkinson, S.M., in which he was fined under the Pure Foods Act for mis-labeling a preparation known as "Sargol." The appeal was heard by Justices Pring, Sly, and Ferguson, and the verdict was set aside. The Court held that the decision was erroneous, and that there was nothing to show that the drug was falsely described. The statements that the Crown complained of as false and misleading were after all only matters of opinion as to whether the drug would produce the effects claimed for it. Ruie absolute for a prohibition was granted but without costs.

Trade & Commerce.

Post Office Prohibition.

The Federal Postmaster-General has issued an order directing that any postal article received at a post office in the Commonwealth, addressed to

(1) The N. C. C. Co.,

Twickenham,

Middlesex, England,

(2) The Ware Ear Drum Coy.,
E. Wesley,
H. A. Sinclair,
Professor Robert Morley,
Mrs. Lee Edwards,
Mr. Davies,

64 Pitt-street,
Sydney.

by their own or any other name, fictitious or assumed, or to any agent or representative of theirs, shall not be registered or transmitted or delivered.

State Drug Depot in View.

Arrangements have been completed for the establishment of a co-operative State drug depot in Sydney from July 1. The smallest hospital in the most remote town in the State, it is stated, will be able to purchase drugs at the same prices as the big hospitals of Sydney, which are able to buy at wholesale rates. Mr. W. A. Holman, the Premier, says that a committee of scientists is conducting a series of experiments that will probably result in the State being able to supply many drugs which have to be imported now.

Importations Prohibited.

In the interests of the public health and welfare, the Minister of Customs has prohibited the importation of the following articles and preparations, now known and described as dolichos, dolichos down, dolichos pubes, cowhage cowitch, juckpulver, cachoo, electric snuff, Balkan or suffragette bombs, and all articles or preparations of a similar character.

Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Bill.

The Bill to amend the Commerce Act, which passed the Senate last year, has lapsed. It appeared on the notice paper of the House of Representatives until the last moment, when it was dropped. On March 13, Mr. Tudor asked whether it would be proceeded with, as his side of the House favoured its proposals. Mr. Boyd said there would be a fair amount of opposition from the Government side of the House. Mr. Hughes said he would look into the matter. He did so, and the Bill, which really aimed at penalising British proprietary medicines, disappeared from the notice paper, much to the disappointment of the Federal Director of Quarantine (Dr. Cumpston), who, up to the last moment, hoped that it might be allowed to go through.

Trade Notes.

Mr. John Rosier, the well-known chiropodist, of 240 Swanston-street, Melbourne, is now celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of his commencement in business.

The Anona Toilet Requisites Co. Melbourne.—Messrs. G. W. B. Tutton and L. R. Garton, the proprietors of the above firm, dissolved partnership on 21st February.

Kephaldol Factory Destroyed.—On Friday, the 16th February, the building known as 43 and 45 Dixon-street, Sydney, in which the large and splendidly equipped laboratories of the Kephaldol and Stomoxigen Companies occupied the entire top floor, was entirely destroyed by fire. With the exception of two or three machines considerably damaged, the entire plant, fixtures and stock were entirely destroyed. Some months will be required to procure new machinery, and as only a small stock was carried at the companies' offices, Ash-street, Sydney, the problem of new stock after another couple of months will be a serious one. The total loss reaches nearly £3000, partially covered by insurance in the offices of the South British and I.O.A. Companies.

Trade Mark Applications.

Class 2.—Chemical Substances, Disinfectants, Etc.

Thalassol.—Charles Samuel Nathan, 804 High-street, Perth.

Septol.—William Short and A. Gordon Short, Newton, New South Wales, manufacturing chemists.

Class 3.—Medicinal Preparations Used in Pharmacy.

Hygienia.—"Madame Belle," Haberfield, New South Wales, herbalist.

Cannadonna.—Frederick Thomas Stone, Mildura, pharmaceutical chemist.

Alziaryne.—Rosenhain and Co., Bourke-street, Melbourne.

20 Mule Team Brand.—Borax Consolidated Ltd., London, manufacturers.

Nitoline.—Alexander Browne, Sydney, New South Wales, pharmaceutical chemist.

Bear Design.—Standard Oil Co., San Francisco, California.

Zincoplast.—Leslie Ltd., London, E.C., England.

Minnis Western Eye Lotion.—J. C. Minnis, Blackall, Queensland, manufacturing chemist.

Pas-Mal.—E. Bryce, Sydney, New South Wales, optician.

Class 4.—Perfumery, Soaps, Toilet Articles, Etc.

Phul-Nana.—J. Grossmith and Son and Co., London, E.C., England, manufacturing chemist.

Brenda Barrie.—Alys Rivers, Collins-street, Melbourne.

Vorraine.—Alys Rivers, Collins-street, Melbourne.

Saneta.—Sigma Company Ltd., Elizabeth-street, Melbourne, manufacturers.

A. and F. Pears.—A. and F. Pears Limited, London, England, soap makers and perfumers.

Messrs. H. B. Selby and Co. (formerly trading as H. B. Silberberg and Co.), notify that

the firm has adopted the name of Selby. They point out that there is not, nor has there ever been, any foreign capital employed in the business. The proprietor and all his employees are Australian born. His grandparents were born in Warsaw, Poland, and came from London to Australia nearly 70 years ago. His father for about 15 years was a Councillor of the Portland Shire, Victoria, and at the opening of the Federal Parliament by the present King and Queen represented that district. His mother was born in England. His brother was at the front, a captain in the A.A.M.C.

Market Reports.

London advices on January 20 report a quiet tendency, although price changes are somewhat numerous. The general downward tone in the values of synthetic products continues, but Barbitone is scarcer than ever, and Phenazone is again rather dearer. Phenacetin is easier, owing to increased manufacture of the drug in America.

Higher.—Cascara Sagrada, Gum Myrrh, Gum Olibanum, Carthagena Ipecacuanha, Barbitone, Cubebs, Mace, Shellac, Nitrate of Soda, Sulphur, Caustic Soda.

Firmer.—Phenazone, Camphor, Acetic Acid, Rubber.

Easier.—Menthol, Atropine, Potassium Permanganate, Acetylsalicylic Acid, Copper Sulphate, Linseed Oil, Turpentine.

Lower.—Phenacetin, Chloral Hydrate, Hexamine, Salicylates, Nutmegs.

Births, Marriages & Deaths.

DEATH.

DIED ON SERVICE.

ANDREWS.—On the 11th February, at 1st South Midland Clearing Station, Sergeant Robert Frank (Bob), the beloved son of Albert Andrews, 193 High-street, Malvern, dearly loved brother of Norman (on active service), Winnie, Elsie, Olive, Gertie, Ivy, Margorie, Harold, and Gordon.

WILLIAMS. Killed in action in France, 23rd February, 1917, Sapper W. L. Williams, Engineer, late student Dookie Agricultural College, beloved eldest son of Helene Williams and W. D. Williams, pharmacist, 62 Kinkora Road, Glenferrie.

For Sale.

ASSAY BALANCE, cost £30 (by Henry Troemner, Philadelphia), weighs to 1000 grammes; Set of Platinum Weights, 1 gramme downwards; Platinum Weighing Pans; also Platinum Crucible, etc., weighing ½oz. Offer wanted.

Apply "Chemicus," *Journal of Pharmacy*.

NOTICES.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

ELECTION OF FOUR MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AND TWO AUDITORS.

I, SAMUEL BAIRD, the RETURNING OFFICER appointed under the Articles of Association of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, DO HEREBY DECLARE that the number of nominations not being greater than the number of vacancies for seats on the Council of the above-named Society, the following persons have been duly elected members of the Council:—

FRANCIS, GEORGE WILLIAM, Melbourne.
GABRIEL, CHARLES JOHN, Abbotsford.
LEETE, ERNEST HOLLOWAY, Malvern.
PICKFORD, JOHN CHARLES, Armadale.

and for the office of Auditors:—

SHACKELL, ROBERT HENRY, 59 William Street, Melbourne.
WOODWARD, THOMAS, Bourke Street, Melbourne.

SAMUEL BAIRD,
RETURNING OFFICER.

Melbourne, 21st February, 1917.

INGRAM'S HIGH-GRADE WHIRLING SYRINGE

Fitted with Raine's Patent Vulcanite Mount.
(Patent No. 14433/15.)

This
Patent Mount
produces by
single pressure
of the Bulb
two sprays that
operate in
opposite
directions.
Made of High-
Grade
Quality Rubber.

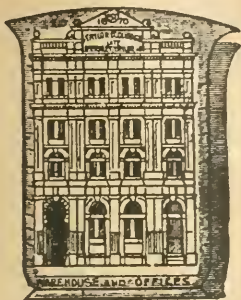


Gives a full and
stronger
injection than
can be produced
by any other spray
consequently its
cleansing
facilities give
comfort and
satisfaction.
Constructed
upon scientific
principles.

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Houses.

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- Laboratory tests have proven the destructive effect of Vaporised Cresolene on diphtheria bacilli.

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IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

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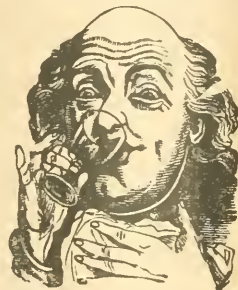
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Spools, each	1/2	1	2	2 1/2	3 inches wide.
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Statham's Porous Rubber Elastic Bandages

For the Cure of **ULCERS** and other Diseases of the Leg.

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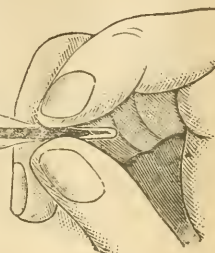
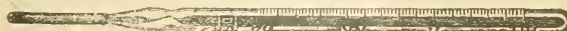
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Disordered Liver and Female Ailments.

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STANDS UNRIVALLED FOR

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Sold by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Dealers everywhere.

PHARMACY BOARD NOTICES.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

MEDICAL ACT 1915, PART III.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

AS required by Section 95, Sub-section of the "Medical Act 1915," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, 5th and 6th June, 1917.

The following are the compulsory subjects:—
LATIN.—Grammar, accidence and syntax. Translation of simple sentences into Latin. Translation into English from Cæsar, De Bello, Gallico, Book I., Chapter 1-29, inclusive, or Vergil Aeneid, Book I., Lines 1-401, inclusive.

ENGLISH.—Grammar and Composition. Literature. The University Text Book in English.

ENGLISH TEXT BOOK.

The Text Book in English for December, 1916, and March and June, 1917, will be:

English Prose and Verse (F. Sinclair, M.A.) Part I.

To be memorised—

Shakespeare—*When to the Sessions.*

When Icicles Hang.

Milton—*Paradise Lost* ("He scarce had ceased" to end of selection.)

When I Consider.

Keats—*Ode to Autumn.*

Much Have I Travelled.

Wordsworth—*The Solitary Reaper.*

Scorn Not the Sonnet.

Tennyson—*Break, Break, Break.*

Crossing the Bar.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules, simple and compound; vulgar and decimal fractions; simple and compound proportion; profit and loss; simple and compound interest; true and commercial discount and present worth; extraction of square root; British and metrical system of weights and measures; problems relating to lineal, square and cubic measurements, averages.

ALGEBRA.—Notation, symbolic expressions, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Highest common factor and lowest common multiple. Fractions, cyclic order. Extraction of square root. Proof of algebraical identities. Simple equations of one and two variables. Quadratic equations of one variable. Equational problems.

GEOMETRY.—The substance of Euclid Books I. and II. Any recognised Text Book may be used. Examination Fee, £1 1s.

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for March, June, September and December in each year. 1s. a copy.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

MATERIA MEDICA, BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.

THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly in June and December. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 7th, 8th, and 9th June, 1917.

Examination Fee—Two Guineas.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

The next FINAL EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 11th, 12th and 13th June, 1917.

Candidates must give ten days' written notice of their intention to present themselves. Indentures of Apprenticeship and the Certificates required by Sections 96 and 98 of "The Medical Act, 1915," Part III., must be lodged with the Registrar, and the Fee of Three Guineas paid ten days prior to the day of examination.

NOTICE TO REGISTRAR OF INTENTION TO BE EXAMINED.

Every candidate desirous of being examined shall, ten days previous to the day fixed for examination, give the Registrar written notice of his intention to present himself for examination, and pay the prescribed fee. Entry forms are obtainable at the office.

APPRENTICESHIP.

REGISTRATION OF INDENTURES OF APPRENTICESHIP.

Every person who shall have obtained a certificate of having passed the Preliminary Examination, and who shall have entered into articles of agreement as an apprentice with a registered pharmaceutical chemist, shall, on production of such certificate, and of such articles of agreement, and upon payment of the fee of one guinea, be entitled, upon application to the Registrar within three months of the date of such articles, to have his name placed upon the Register of Apprentices. The term of apprenticeship is for four years. Indentures must be in triplicate. Apprenticeship Indenture Forms (three copies) may be obtained from the offices of the Board. (Charge, 2s. 6d. per set.)

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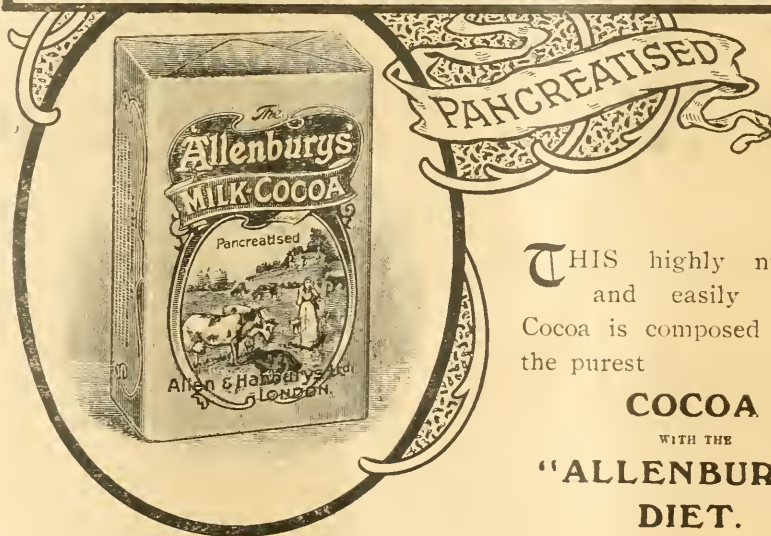
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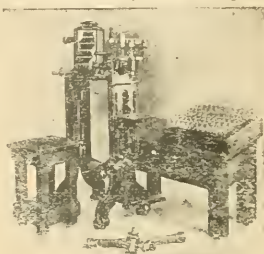
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Authors for 1917 are—Scott's "Lady of the Lake," Canto 3, and Caesar, de Bello Gallico, Book 5.

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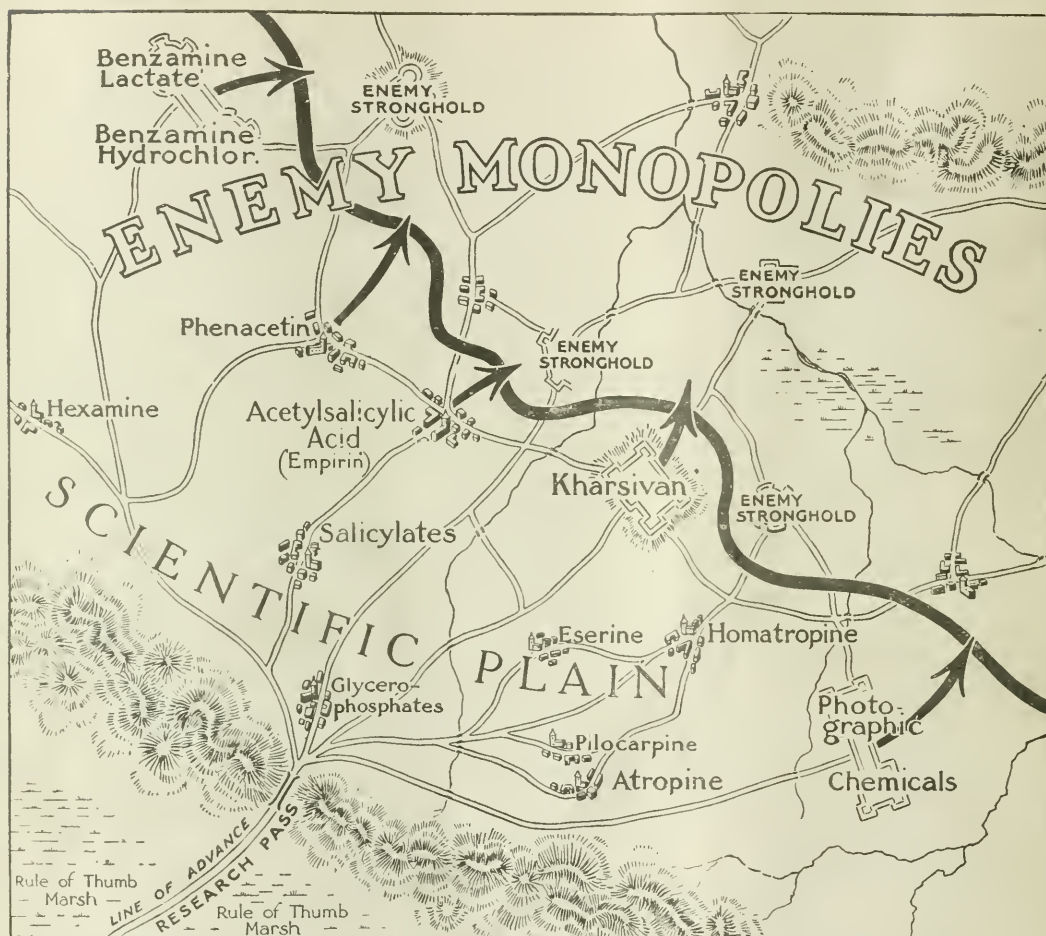
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